



THE TIMES

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## Government accused by Acas

The governing council of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) has accused the Government of calling into question the service's impartiality by the decision to appoint an Acas official to advise on industrial relations at GCHQ. Page 2

### Six more quit

Six more members of the right-wing Monday Club have resigned or decided not to renew their membership in protest at the club's alleged failure to tackle extremism. Page 2

### Adams 'sore'

Mr Gerry Adams, the Provisional Sinn Fein MP for Belfast West, was "sore and stiff" after surgery to remove bullets fired at him on Wednesday. Leading article, page 15

### Royal drama

Mr John Shaw, a steeplejack, aged 57, collapsed and died as he raised the Prince of Wales's standard minutes before the Prince and Princess arrived at a Sheffield factory. Page 3

### Cancer warning

A cancer specialist had advised teenage girls to refrain from sexual intercourse to reduce their chances of controlling cancer of the cervix. Page 3

### MP shot dead

A right-wing politician was shot dead on the streets of San Salvador, the third MP to be murdered in as many months. Page 8

### Glenn giving up

Senator John Glenn has decided to withdraw as a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, sources close to the former astronaut said in Washington. Page 7

### Berlin walls

East Germany is building a second wall some 180 yards behind the original wall that has divided Berlin for 23 years. It is three feet higher than the first wall. Page 7

### First lady

Jenny Pitman became the first woman to train the winner of the Cheltenham Gold Cup when Burrough Hill Lad, ridden by Phil Tuck, won yesterday's big race. Report, page 2

### Derby hope

Robert Maxwell is to seek advice from the Treasury today to try to work out a survival plan for Derby County which faces a winding-up order. Page 26

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Letters: Oil royalties, from Mr Nigel Essex; Budget effects, from Miss Jill Goulding, and others; university cuts, from Professor R. E. D. Bishop and Mr D. Neave. Leading articles: Picketing, Mr Gerry Adams; defence staff features, pages 10, 12, 14

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# Moderates set back left-wing hopes of all-out pit strike

Left-wing hopes of an all-out national miners' strike have been blasted by heavy votes against action from moderate coalfields.

A big majority against striking is expected in the Nottinghamshire area, which called a 24-hour stoppage for its ballot today.

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners in the moderate violence there coalfields yesterday delivered a body blow to left-wing hopes of a national strike in the mining industry by returning heavy votes against industrial action.

More than 12,000 members of the Midlands area of the National Union of Miners workers have voted four to one against striking in support of Yorkshire miners, whose picketing has continued in defiance of a High Court order.

A similar vote against striking was recorded in the single-pit Cumbria coalfield. The men at Hazle colliery decided by 383 votes to 109 against joining the "snowball strike" despite being told only the previous day that most of them will lose their jobs in the next few months.

In Lancashire, usually regarded as a "barometer" coalfield, reliable industry sources reported last night that despite intensive picketing by Yorkshire miners the vote is running at more than three to one against an all-out stoppage.

Miners in Nottinghamshire, Britain's second largest coalfield, vote on their area leaders' strike recommendation today after reaching a "no-go-area" deal with militant Yorkshire pickets - they will strike for the day to hold a pithead ballot in peace.

The vote among traditionally moderate Nottinghamshire miners usually corresponds with the poll verdict in the Midlands, and after picket line

National Coal Board managers expect a big majority against a strike.

The board's figures released last night indicate that the disruption is still growing. In all, 138 pits are on strike or are "picked out" by flying pickets from Yorkshire or other militant coalfields. Only 21 pits are working normally, two more are turning some coal and at another nine men are at work but not producing.

The board's lawyers are considering the evidence indicating that the injunctions against unlawful secondary picketing granted two days ago have been breached in many cases, but the board is delaying a return to court during the 24-hour truce reached between the Yorkshire and Nottingham miners' leaders.

Under the deal miners from Yorkshire withdrew after 6 pm yesterday so that Nottinghamshire members could enforce a day-long stoppage by picketing their own collieries while the strike ballot takes place.

Mr Henry Richardson, the Nottinghamshire miners' secretary, said a Yorkshire picket's death early yesterday had convinced everyone of the need for unity among miners.

He said: "It's obvious that life and limb are in danger and therefore we are saying to our membership that this cannot go on."

Another pithead ballot will be held today in north Derbyshire,

once regarded as a left-wing stronghold but now more in tune with moderate opinion. If the vote there conforms with the pattern elsewhere there will be intense pressure on the union's left-wing leaders to order a national ballot next week.

There are fears, however, that if the Nottinghamshire men vote against striking then, in the words of one official "all hell will be let loose" by Yorkshire pickets.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's president, said in a statement: "Following the NCB decision to use Tory anti-trade union legislation in taking out an injunction against the Yorkshire NUM, there has been an escalation of action throughout the British coalfields.

"This deliberate NCB provocation, alongside the tragedy that occurred last night on the picket line at Ollerton, demonstrates how serious the situation has become."

The union's Yorkshire area executive formally decided to continue sending flying pickets to spread the strike.

Mr Jack Taylor, area president, said: "There might be a way of interpreting the injunction to allow us to picket in other coalfields. If we believe that for us to carry out our responsibility to our members we need to picket in other areas, we shall do so."

Union finances page 2  
Leading article page 15

## Miners united by picket's death

By Barrie Clement and Craig Seaton

Both moderate and militant miners were shocked yesterday by the death of a flying picket from Yorkshire during clashes at Ollerton Colliery, Nottinghamshire.

Nottinghamshire's 34,000 miners were called out on strike until the result of a ballot is known at noon tomorrow. In return the militant pitmen from Yorkshire have withdrawn and handed over picket duty to their Nottinghamshire colleagues until the result of the voting is known.

Dr Stephen Jones, a Home Office pathologist, examined the body of the miner who died. Mr David Garath Jones, aged 24, of South Kirby, West Yorkshire, and found nothing to support suggestions by other pickets that he had been hit by a brick, or a policeman's truncheon. There was no evidence on the body of assault, said Dr Jones.

Mr Jones, a father of two, almost certainly died after being crushed, it was discovered.

The pathologist's report indicated that Mr Jones had suffered a crushing injury to his chest which had injured blood vessels attached to the heart. The injury had probably occurred within one hour of the time of his collapse.

Contingents from the police forces in most parts of southern England, including men from the Metropolitan Police and men specially trained in riot control were involved in controlling pickets earlier yesterday. Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons that 3,000 officers from 17 forces were at hand to quell any disturbances.

The violence at Bilsborrow, Thoresby and Ollerton collieries which resulted in 23 arrests and some injuries, came before the leaders of the Yorkshire miners decided to pull their members out.

Elsewhere in the coalfield picketing continued. Miners in North Wales complained that flying pickets from South Wales, where all the pits are at a standstill, had disrupted their ballot on the strike over pit closures.

Mr Arthur Scargill, was booed yesterday as he tried to speak to 200 Midland colliers on the doorstep of the union headquarters in Sheffield.

Mr McLachlan: Another force to investigate

## Brittan 'inflaming dispute'

By Julian Haviland  
Political Editor

The violence in the Nottinghamshire coalfield had its counterpart in the Commons yesterday when Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, volunteered a statement on the pickets and the police and was then accused by Mr Gerald Kaufman, his Opposition shadow, of deliberately inflaming a situation which required conciliation.

Mr Don Concannon, the former miner who is Labour MP for Mansfield, seemed to think little of either man's contribution, and said he hoped the House would "kindly belt up". He said he would rather Mr Brittan had not made a statement.

A pained Mr Brittan replied that it would be a sad day if it became a matter of controversy to suggest people should be able to go to work if they wished.

The Home Secretary began by reminding MPs that it was a breach of the criminal law to obstruct or intimidate those who wished to go to work.

He did not mention statutes passed since 1979, but spoke instead of the extensive powers possessed by the police under the common law.

Mr Brittan expressed the deep regret of the Commons for the death at Ollerton of Mr David Jones, and spoke of the horrifying mob rule inflicted by miner upon miner.

Mr Kaufman said the Labour Party condemned all violence in all circumstances. But he said Mr Brittan seemed to regard it as his function to stir up difficult situations instead of cooling them down.

Then Mr Kaufman went to far for the affronted Conservative benches, by saying that the Government, by its legislation and by appointing Mr MacGregor, must have known what would happen and might even have hoped for it.



Princess Michael of Kent at Kew Gardens, London, yesterday where she planted a tree to launch Beautiful Britain 1984 (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

## British patient has heart-lung surgery

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The death of a young man after a traffic accident has brought the hope of new life to three seriously ill people, one of them the first British patient to receive a combined heart and lung transplant.

The two others received kidney transplants after the man's relatives gave surgeons permission to remove his organs.

Mrs Jean Jones, aged 48, was recovering in Hatchfield Hospital, west London, last night, after a 15-hour operation to give her a new heart and lungs. The only other such operation in Britain was performed at the same hospital last December on a young Swedish journalist, Mr Lars Ljungberg, who died 14 days later.

The young man had been diagnosed as "brain dead" earlier in the day. Mrs Jones was prepared for surgery in the evening and the operation to transplant the organs began at about 9.30 pm, the hospital said. It continued throughout the night, led by Mr Magdi Yacoub, Hatchfield's senior heart transplant surgeon, with two teams of five doctors.

Meanwhile, two patients suffering from serious kidney disease were identified as being suitable for transplants, and the organs were transported to their hospitals in England and Ireland. Last night both were understood to be making good progress.

The heart-lung transplant of Mrs Jones ended at 12.30 pm

Continued on back page, col 1

## Interest cut on National Savings expected today

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The Government is expected to announce a cut in the rates paid on National Savings today, bringing them closer to those available elsewhere.

The move will please the building societies, which are to agree the cut in their rates at a special meeting this morning. They are choosing between cutting the 11.25 per cent mortgage rate and the 7.25 per cent ordinary share rate by either 0.75 or 0.5 per cent.

Lower rates in National Savings, which compete directly with the societies for savers' money, would help to restore

constitutional crisis by refusing to press Bills that had the support of a Labour majority in the House of Commons, towards the end of its term of office, when there was nothing the Commons could do to override the Lords' obstruction, or if the Crown were to dissolve Parliament.

The anonymous author cited the 1975 Australian "constitutional coup" when prerogative power was used by the Governor-General to "destroy" Mr Gough Whitlam and his Labour government.

The paper said: "There is, therefore, absolutely no legal or constitutional guarantee that such a coup would not be repeated in this country, if the House of Lords were to create a

## Husain's stinging attack stuns US

From Nicholas Ashford  
Washington

The Reagan Administration has been stung and dismayed by a sharp attack from King Husain of Jordan on US policy in the Middle East and his apparent repudiation of America's attempt to work out a diplomatic solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, King Husain ruled out any early direct negotiations with Israel and said the US had lost its credibility as a mediator between Arabs and Israel because of its alleged one-sided support for the Jewish state.

President Reagan was hoping that King Husain, after his recent talks with Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, would be ready to join the US-sponsored Palestinian autonomy talks with Israel.

The King also gave warning that he would seek arms "from anywhere and anyone else in the world" if Congress rejects the Reagan Administration's proposed sale of £200m (about \$340m) worth of military equipment to Jordan.

His comments were made in a two-hour interview in his palace in Amman with Judith Miller, a correspondent for *The New York Times* in the Middle East. Miss Miller said his remarks represented one of the harshest critiques the Jordanian monarch has made of American policy in the Middle East.

Although US officials tried to play down the significance of the interview, they expressed concern over its timing and the bluntness of the King's language. They noted that his criticism was a distinct departure from the continued support for Mr. Reagan which he demonstrated during his Washington visit last month.

Significantly, his attack came only a day after President Reagan had, at some political risk to himself, urged American Jews and Israel to drop their opposition to supply Stinger missiles and other advanced military equipment to Jordan.

The President argued that if moderate Arab countries like Jordan were to be brought into peace talks with Israel based on his September, 1982, Middle East plan, "we must preserve our credibility as a fair-minded broker seeking a comprehensive solution".

King Husain said the US was succumbing to Israeli dictates.

American officials speculated that the bitterness of the King's remarks may have been caused by congressional opposition to the military aid package for Jordan as well as President Reagan's recent refusal to support a United Nations resolution condemning Israeli settlements on the occupied West Bank.

Continued on back page, col 2

## Woburn silver stolen in £5m raid

By Stewart Tendler  
and Michael Horsnell

A £100,000 reward was offered last night for the recovery of heirlooms worth more than £5m stolen from Woburn Abbey, the home of the Marquess of Tavistock, yesterday.

In the biggest raid of its kind, the thieves breached a new television security system and broke in through a first floor window.

Once inside, they rifled the state dining room, Queen Victoria's state bedroom and a room used for storing racing trophies, from which they took 47 pieces of silver and gilt.

These included the Reform Cup, a silver trophy presented in 1832 to the Prime Minister, Lord Russell, to commemorate the passing of the Reform Act, and two priceless silver beakers by Paul de Lamerie. It is feared that the silverware may already have been smuggled abroad.

# Government accused by Acas of compromising its impartiality at GCHQ

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) accused the Government last night of questioning its impartiality by the decision to appoint an Acas official to advise management on industrial relations at the Government Headquarters (GCHQ) at Cheltenham.

The Acas governing council is to seek an urgent meeting with Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, to make clear their view that the service has been placed in an invidious position by this incident, and that senior members of Acas staff should not be withdrawn by the Department of Employment in this way.

Whitehall's explanation of Mr Lambert's secondment is that he is a career civil servant who can be moved between government departments if the need arises.

This point was forcibly made yesterday by the non-TUC council members who opposed the unions' attempt to prevent Mr Lambert's eventual return to Acas.

The unions had argued in the meeting that because of his advisory role at Cheltenham, the

would be "unlikely that he would again be able to command the necessary confidence of trade union officers as an Acas conciliator, should his return to Acas at some stage in the future be contemplated."

The delegation is expected to include one representative each from the CBI, the TUC, and the academics.

Unions have been angered by Mr Lambert's appointment but the TUC's employment committee decided earlier this week against withdrawing union nominees to Acas over the GCHQ dispute.

The unions hope instead to be able to put pressure on the Government through their protest to Mr King.

Today, Mr Lowry is also to meet Civil Service Union officials representing Acas staff to hear their complaints about Mr Lambert's appointment. The Society of Civil and Public Servants has also decided to withdraw from the Acas negotiating machinery until Mr Lambert is recalled or permanently replaced at Acas.

## VAT target of Budgets to come

By Sarah Haag, Economics Editor

The Chancellor's plan to switch the tax system from "pay-as-you-earn" to "pay-as-you-spend" will be based on further extensions of value-added tax to more goods and services in future Budgets.

Mr Nigel Lawson told listeners to Radio 2's *Jimmy Young Show* yesterday that a switch would not involve an increase in the rate of VAT (at present 15 per cent). He thought the present rate was "about right", and "the way to go would be to tax things which are at present not taxed at all".

Mr Lawson pointed out that VAT covers only about half of consumers spending in Britain, and that more goods and services are taxed in other EEC countries. Major exemptions (or "zero-rated" goods and services) in Britain include food, children's clothes and shoes, books and newspapers, drugs on prescriptions, financial, health and education services, and new construction. Most fuels - except petrol - and public transport are also zero-rated.

It is understood that the Chancellor has ruled out any extension of VAT to fresh food.

Construction is a possible target, particularly after this Budget's extension of VAT to building alterations. EEC rules forbid its extension to financial services.

Most zero-rated goods and services are those which are deemed to be essential purchases, which would make it politically difficult for the Chancellor to make sweeping changes. When Sir Geoffrey Howe raised the VAT rate to 15 per cent the Government defended the increase by pointing out that low-income families and pensioners bought mainly zero-rated goods.

## Forgery claim as six quit Monday Club

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Six more members of the Monday Club have resigned or decided against renewing their membership in protest at its alleged failure to tackle extremism in its ranks and the decision of its executive council to suspend its former political adviser, Mr John Pinniger, and certain colleagues.

Amid recrimination over last Thursday's executive meeting, it has been stated that a forged document was produced as part of the case against them.

It purported to be the minutes of a meeting of the Camberley Group, which the club has alleged Mr Pinniger and others formed as a vehicle for a takeover of the club. After a protest from Mr Pinniger that it was not authentic, the document has been passed to the police for examination, the club said yesterday.

Mr Simon McIlwaine, former chairman of the Cambridge University Monday Club, who

also suspended last Thursday, said yesterday that six other members who had left were Miss Michelle Cooper, former chairman of the students' group, Mr Andrew Shinesgold, Mr Lee McLeishan, Mr William Wright, Mr Tony Kehoe, and one of the club's industrial relations spokesmen who did not want to be named.

Miss Cooper said in a statement that she had informed the club chairman last year of the sympathies of one young member with neo-Fascism and that one prominent member was a follower of a bizarre cult which glorified the Aryan race, and that some club officials had decided to admit a former National Front member. In none of these cases was any real action taken.

Mr McIlwaine, meanwhile,

denied that the Camberley Group had been formed to take over the club.

## Flexibility conceded over deputizing services

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, has dropped proposals to provide blanket restrictions on doctors' use of deputizing services for night and weekend calls.

In a statement yesterday he said that many people had seen that as "too rigid and inflexible", despite proposals in the original guidance that FPCs would be allowed to take account of local circumstances and individual doctors' problems.

Originally, Mr Clarke proposed that single-handed doctors and doctors in partnerships of two would normally be restricted to using deputizing services only three nights a week and at alternate weekends. Doctors in partnerships of three or more would be expected to provide their own cover.

Instead, Family Practitioner Committees (FPCs), which oversee doctors' use of the services, will be given much more flexibility in deciding how far doctors can use the services within broad guidelines about average levels of use.

Instead FPCs will be given guidance on the type of controls to consider and given guidance on average levels of use.

## Ayatollah visits war victims

By John Witherow

As part of the Iranian campaign to highlight Iraqi use of chemical weapons in the Gulf war, an ayatollah visited London yesterday to claim that Iraq used poison gas only three days ago.

Ayatollah Mahdi Karrubi, who is touring European capitals, told a press conference at the Iranian Embassy that about 2,000 soldiers had been poisoned and "some had become martyrs". He repeated the charge, denied by the Foreign Office, that Britain had supplied chemical weapons to Iraq.

The ayatollah visited three Iranian soldiers receiving treatment at the £199-a-day private Cromwell hospital.

Hospital flight, page 7



Ayatollah Karrubi speaking at his press conference at the Iranian Embassy yesterday

# VAT CHANGES

### HOT TAKE-AWAYS

Hot take-away food and drink will be standard-rated from 1 May 1984. Details are in Budget Notice 2/84.

### CONSTRUCTION

Building alterations and alterations to civil engineering works.  
 Construction of garden buildings, such as greenhouses, sheds and most detached garages.

Installation of most fitted furniture and kitchen appliances. Will be standard-rated from 1 June 1984. Details are in Budget Notice 3/84.

### IMPORTS

The arrangements for postponed accounting for VAT on imports will be withdrawn from 1 October 1984. Details are in Budget Notice 14/84.

### REGISTRATION AND DEREGISTRATION

From 14 March 1984 the VAT registration turnover limits have been raised to £18,700 a year or £6,200 in any one quarter.

These limits apply to everyone who is required to be registered on or after 14 March 1984.

If your estimated turnover (including VAT) will be £17,700 or less in the year beginning 1 June 1984 you can apply for deregistration from 1 June 1984 now.

If you have been registered for two years and your turnover (including VAT) has not exceeded £18,700 in each of those years and is unlikely to exceed that level in the year then beginning, you can apply for deregistration after 1 June 1984.

Details of these changes are in Budget Notice 1/84 which also explains how to cancel your registration.

### Further Information

All of these Notices are available, with help if you need it, from local VAT offices. You will find the addresses in telephone directories under "Customs and Excise".

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## Tougher obscenity law possible

By David Hewson

Parliament will be asked to vote on a fundamental reform of the Obscene Publications Act in its next session if the lottery of Private Members' Bills falls in favour of Mrs Mary Whitehouse's National Viewers' and Listeners' Association.

Mrs Whitehouse said yesterday that a number of backbenchers were willing to sponsor a Private Member's Bill to tighten up a key part of the Act, probably with the support of the government.

The amendment would replace the present wording,

which bars material with a tendency to deprave and corrupt, with an all-embracing definition of pornography.

Mrs Whitehouse said: "Don't ask me what the wording will be, our lawyers are working on it. It would be simple, direct definition."

Mrs Whitehouse said that the long-term objectives of her association were to bring cinema and television within the area covered by the Act.

Anti-censorship campaigners, who have, for years, tolerated Mrs Whitehouse and her association as something of a joke group, are having to face the fact that the lobby has made tremendous inroads into accepted standards with the new Video Recordings Bill.

Television companies fear that, if the standards applying to material covered by the Bill were extended to them, many programmes now considered acceptable could be affected.

Mrs Whitehouse said: "I am not talking about an oppressive obscenity law, I am talking about one which will deal with the extremes."

## Nearly 200 MPs sign Oman inquiry motion

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday opened up the possibility that she had a private meeting with a Middle East director of Cemmentation during her visit to Oman in 1981.

She said in the Commons that she had not met Mr Jamil Amyuni, director of the firm which went on to win the £300m contract for an Oman university, in an "official capacity".

Mr Mark Thatcher, who has already said that he was "a very small part" in the deal, met his mother during her Oman visit, and Whitehall sources last night failed to rule out the possibility that Mrs Thatcher and Mr Amyuni had met either

socially or privately, either in Oman or elsewhere.

The Commons Select Committee of Members' Bills, which last week rejected a complaint that the Prime Minister should formally have registered her interest, last night agreed to examine a further complaint that Mrs Thatcher had contravened a 1974 Commons resolution on the declaration of interest.

Nearly 200 MPs have signed a Commons motion urging a select committee investigation of the Prime Minister's failure to declare and to register an interest, "to clear the matter up and the public speculation."

## Farm plea to Thatcher

Sir Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union, was expected to meet the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street last night in a final effort to persuade her to reject the latest EEC farm price package at next week's summit meeting.

Sir Richard said yesterday that the proposed 10 per cent cut in Community milk production could force 5,000 dairy farmers out of business in Britain alone. He would be asking Mrs Thatcher to press for a transition period of at least three years.

He was like going into a seventeenth century shop", one enthusiastic visitor to the price exhibition said.

The reason for porcelain

## Sale room

## Rich pickings in 1645 porcelain cargo

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

bid to 7,980 guilders (estimate 900-1,400 guilders) or £1,847.

In New York on Wednesday

Christie's held a successful sale

of English and Continental

silver totalling £836,675 with

nine per cent unsold. All the

most expensive lots sold to

London dealers with Kenneth

Davis of Albemarle Street

paying the surprise price of the day at £132,000 (estimate

£40,000-£60,000) or £83,000 for

a set of four George I candlesticks and matching candle-snuffer and taper-stick (59oz).

### Corrections

Winterbottom's auctioneers of Lichfield, was incorrectly called Winterbottom's in a saleroom report on March 8. Lynn Greenwood of Stow-on-the-Wold, who spent £1,700 on a Worcester cream and sugar set, were incorrectly described as a dealer from Suffolk in the same report.

Unusual shapes were most

sought after with a teapot

shaped as a peach, the handle

and spout as stems, at £2,540

guilders (estimate £1,500-2,000)

and a £2,900 guilder or £1,450

for a pair of candlesticks and

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# Brittan condemns mob rule by miner on miner

## COAL STRIKE

Both Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, declared in the Commons that the police had a duty to enable those who wished to go to work to do so. Questioned about picketing at many collieries, Mrs Thatcher declared that intimidation and violence must not win.

Mr Brittan, in his statement, referred to the seriousness of the situation and stated that what was so horrifying was that mob rule was being inflicted by miner upon fellow miner. He had asked Sir Lawrence Byford, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, to keep in close touch with the chief constables of the areas concerned.

The police were doing everything in their power to uphold the right of miners who wished to work and vote.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, condemned violence and commented that the Home Secretary seemed to regard it as his function to stir up difficult situations instead of seeking to cool down. The Government had a vested interest in provoking industrial amancy, and the person responsible was Mrs Thatcher, who had sown hatred and despair.

Mr Nicholas Lyell (Mid. Bedfordshire) after praising the miners' union for making strike ballots possible, asked the Prime Minister to condemn those who sought to frustrate them by violence and intimidation.

Above all (he continued) will she make it clear that there will be no repeat of the events at Shatley coke works under this Government and that the law will be fairly but firmly enforced?

Mrs Thatcher: Most miners either want to go to work or peacefully to go to work to exercise their right to ballot. That is the basic law-abiding pursuit. It is the duty of the police to uphold people's rights to go about their law-abiding business peacefully.

The police have powers to limit the number of pickets, to disperse excessive pickets and to stop vehicles carrying pickets if necessary. They have the resources and facilities for mutual support if they require it.

They will carry out their duty of upholding the rights of law abiding citizens to go to work and will have the full support of the Government and of most of the people and the miners.

Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP (Plymouth, Devonport) said that there must be no equivalence about upholding and enforcing the rule of law on pickets. But the Prime Minister should acknowledge, as she had said in her own words, that miners wished to work.

The anxiety (he continued) is not about redundancy but the feeling in many mining communities that there will be no jobs.

Would the Prime Minister look at the PSC industry Ltd which had created 10,000 jobs since 1978 in steel communities hit by closures? Would she consider introducing something similar, an NCB industry Ltd, to create jobs for miners threatened by closures?

Mrs Thatcher replied that job creation activity by BSC had been successful, particularly in places like Corby. The way to keep jobs in coal was by concentrating production on the newest and excellent mines and trying to reduce production from loss-making mines.

That way (she said) there will be a good future in the coal industry for sales in Britain and in exports.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, Cr) We all understand that the law on picketing is meant to be good enough to enforce the right of people who want to work, and that people who want to strike can, but this has done nothing to stop the flying cohorts of intimidation of Scargill and unless the police are given powers and reinforcements to stop this intimidation, the law is held in disrepute and intimidation of those who wish to work occurs.

Mrs Thatcher: Intimidation and violence must not win. The police are not in upholding the right of citizens to go about their normal business and we should condemn all who prevent them going about their normal business and support the police in every way.

Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab): The Prime Minister is now known throughout the country as takeaway Thatcher, takeaway school meals, takeaway trade union rights.

Is it not time the Government

realized the miners will fight for their rights and so will the ten million trade unionists in this country.

It was at Olderton that a miner from Yorkshire, Mr David Jones died. I understand that a post mortem has been carried out, and that he died as a result of injuries to his chest. The House will wish to express its deep regret that this has happened.

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Geoffrey  
Smith

Mr Lawson has succeeded in the first year of his Budget. He may well be right that, despite recent misfortunes, this is a government which has come out of steam. But he has also provided the strategy that has received the most criticism. How far has he solved the dilemma of public spending that has given the impression of an administration whose voice does not know what its hands are doing?

In September 1982, Geoffrey Smith, as Chancellor, announced his willingness to give up his ministerial position to the nation's right to the left. The decision of public spending proportions was unchanged. This warning was accompanied by a paper in *The Times* last week, suggesting options for spending cuts. The Chancellor's speech was an act of political suicide, as it was not decided after a determined debate that the paper deserved the paper.

Masterpiece of caution.

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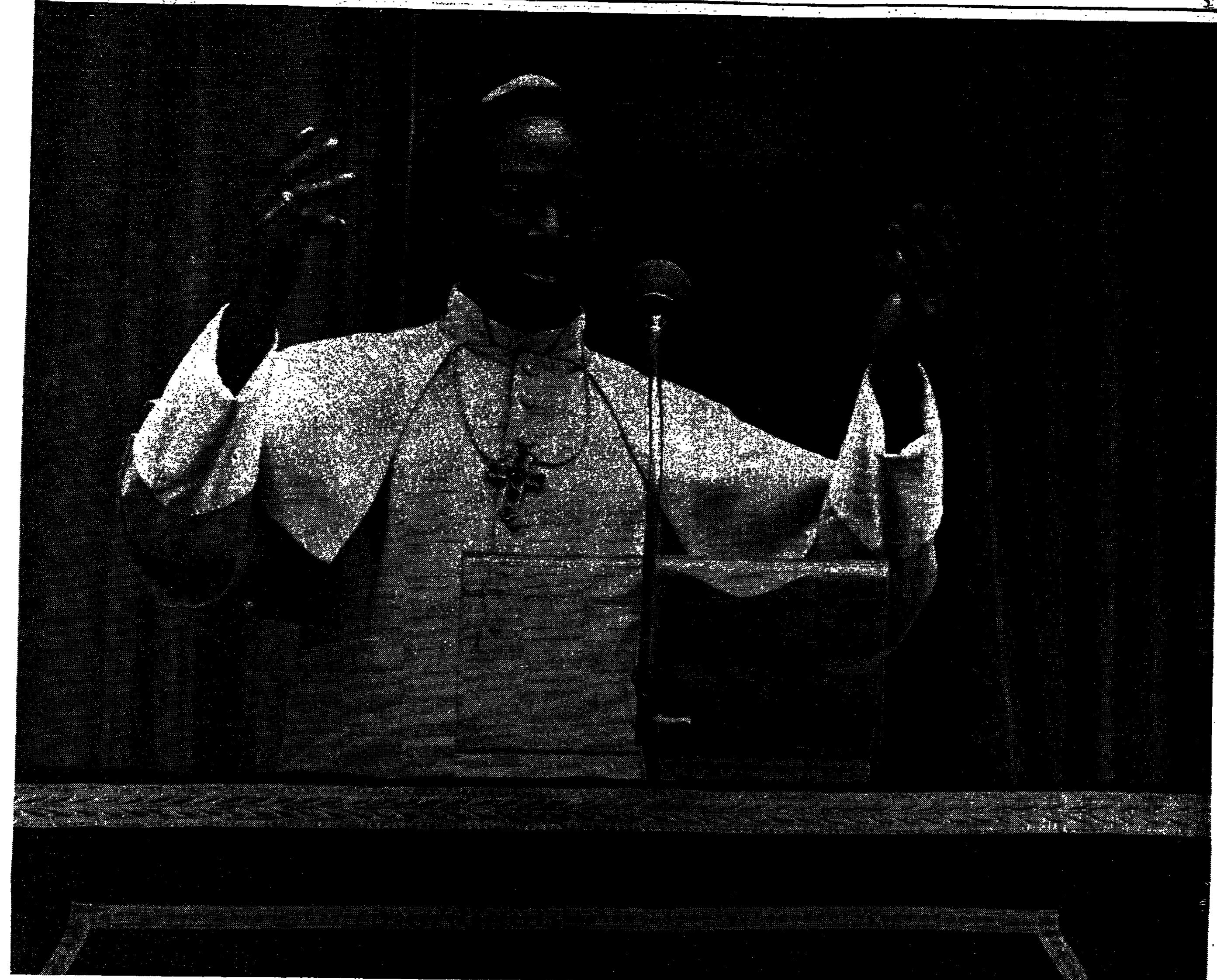
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# How often do The Economist's predictions come true?

We're not really in the predictions business.

Even in 1851, when we infuriated our British readers by forecasting the industrial superiority of the United States, we didn't regard it as crystal-ball journalism.

The truth is, we've always found it difficult to write an article of consequence without looking at the consequences of certain actions.

On a number of occasions this fearlessness has made The Economist seem something of a prophet. (Occasionally, it's made us seem merely foolish.)

We were among the first to foresee the plight of the Jews under Hitler.

Nearer to present times, in the early 1950s, we warned Western businessmen to watch out for Japan. (Earlier, we'd told America to watch out for Pearl Harbour.)

In 1974, in the middle of the oil crisis, we forecast an energy glut by the end of the decade, much to the fury of Shell and the other oil companies.

And in 1982, we asked in a headline "Has young

Lochinvar come out of the West?"

We were writing about Gary Hart, then an unknown Senator from Colorado.

Of course, sometimes we've got it wrong (sorry about Korea) and doubtless we'll err again.

The occasional misjudgment, it seems to us, is better than no judgments at all.

The Economist doesn't sit on the fence. It's opinionated, independent, even quirky.

If you've never tried it we can safely predict you'll be surprised by its style and its scope.

It believes in good writing and it puts its stories across with gusto and glee.

It may give you a head start, it won't give you a headache.

Finally, we feel we should comment on the question posed by our photograph. Will there be a black Pope?

After some consultation, we've decided that this issue is best left to an even Higher Authority than The Economist.

# Gemayel's banquet fails to reconcile old enemies at Lebanon conference

There was supposed to be sweetness and light at yesterday's session of the Lebanese reconciliation talks. Five different vintages of wine and a Lebanese flag, made out of flowers and tinted asparagus had augmented a banquet at the Beau Rivage hotel.

President Amin Gemayel had thrown his arms around Mr Nabil Berri, the Shia Muslim leader, who had done no more than offer a token, rather cool handshake by way of greeting at the start of the meal.

But the old men of Lebanon returned to the fray yesterday morning. It started when Mr Suleiman Franjeh, pro-Syrian former President, archly suggested that Mr Pierre Gemayel, the President's father and the leader of the Phalange, had been working for the Israelis. According to three separate conference sources, the script then ran thus:

Pierre Gemayel: "You must understand the fear which drives Christians towards Israel".

Franjeh: "They (the Christians) are neither Lebanese nor Christian - they are Israelis".

Gemayel: "I cannot accept your definition of them".

Franjeh: "You are an Israeli".

Gemayel: "I am more Lebanese than you. You are not Lebanese. You are a dog and a traitor".

At which point, Mr Franjeh

was anxious to force the President into taking responsibility for the bloodshed in Muslim areas of Beirut over the past six months as they are to create a new structure of government.

Mr Berri, for example, told a news conference yesterday that there could be no compromise at the talks if government appointments continued to be awarded on grounds of religion or if President Gemayel refused to accept his role in the bombardment of west Beirut.

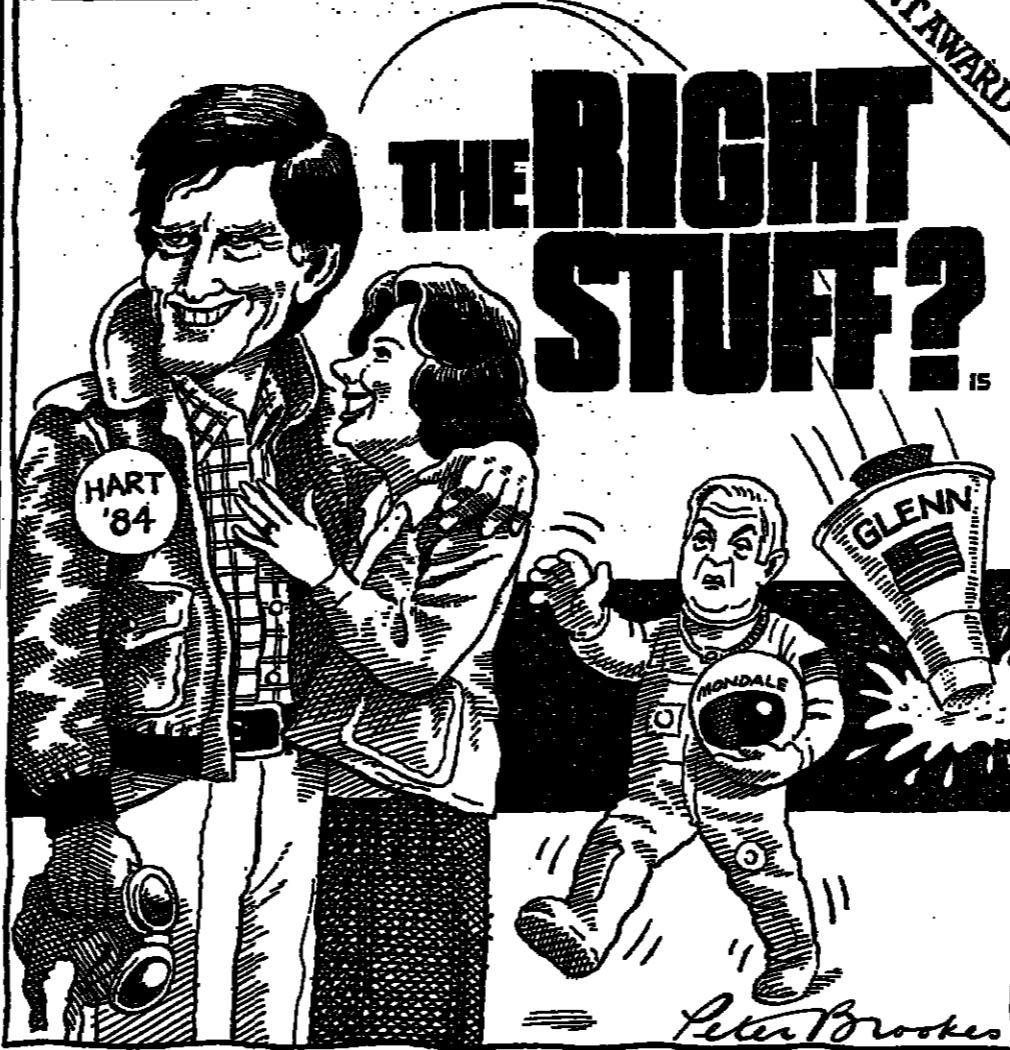
Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials say that all parties to the talks are now agreed that there should be further powers for Lebanon's Sunni Muslim Prime Minister, a longer term for the Speaker of the Assembly, the possibility of a second parliamentary chamber, and the redistribution of key positions in the administration.

Yet Syria's specific demands have still not been made public, and this conference, it becomes more and more obvious, is being held more to consecrate Syria's political victory than to change the minutiae of government structures in Beirut.

● Tel Aviv: The Lebanese port of Sidon reopened yesterday after being shut down by the Israelis for 10 days (Moshe Brilliant writes). The closure followed explosions in the port area on March 4 which injured 11 soldiers, one of them fatally.

It is becoming ever more evident at the conference that the Muslim militia leaders are

very ordinary men who shared a common ambition...  
TO BE  
NOMINATED  
FOR  
BEST PRESIDENT AWARD



## Hart's TV image worries Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Surveys by the President's pollster, Mr Richard Wirthlin, show Mr Reagan leading Senator Hart by only four points, compared with a 16-point margin over Mr Mondale.

"What he would like is a nice, hard primary fight in which Mondale emerges as the eventual winner," Mr Ed Rollins, the Reagan campaign director said recently. "We are certain he can beat Mondale. Hart would be more difficult."

The Reagan re-election campaign had been planned on the basis of a contest between Mr Reagan and the former vice-president. In recent speeches Mr Reagan had concentrated his attacks on Mr Mondale, whom he portrayed as the heir-apparent of the "malaise and confusion of the Carter years".

Reagan aides say they have not yet decided to revise their campaign strategy. However, they expect the President to start taking a few swipes at Senator Hart in future speeches.



Vote catcher: Senator Hart accompanied by his wife, Lee, at a Washington rally.

For the moment Mr Reagan will continue to "act presidential" and to put as much distance as possible between himself and his battling Democratic challengers. His campaign trip to Iowa last month on the day of that state's precinct caucuses was not considered a success. This means he will make only occasional campaign trips around the country and will leave Vice-President George Bush to do most of his political legwork. Mr Reagan will only throw himself fully into the campaign after he has been formally nominated the Republican candidate at the party's national convention in Dallas in August.

## Swapo men 'killed by Angolans'

Windhoek (AFP) - Angolan government troops have engaged Swapo forces moving through southern Angola, shooting and killing some of them, according to the *Windhoek Advertiser* yesterday.

An earlier report in the *Republikein* newspaper of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance said Angolan forces had killed Swapo guerrillas trying to move southward from north of Cunene, base of the joint South African-Angolan monitoring commission.

Accorded the rare honour of addressing both Houses of Congress, Dr Fitzgerald also said that Americans had an obligation to avoid giving even moral support to terrorist groups in Northern Ireland.

"Not one of us, in Britain or in Ireland, is free of some measure of guilt for what has been happening in Northern Ireland", he said. "None of us has a right to seek to shift the whole of the blame on to others."

"Both the London and Irish Governments have a duty to break out of ancient moulds and attitudes and to make the necessary imaginative leap of understanding."

People concerned about Ireland had a moral obligation to support peace and reconciliation. "It can be fulfilled only by a corresponding rejection of revolution against - the very idea of aid by way of money, or by way of weapons, or by way of moral support, to any of those who are engaged in the acts of horrific violence that are corrupting and destroying the life of a whole community", he said.

## Death threat

Butler, North Carolina (AP) - Larry Flynt, the millionaire sex magazine publisher, who is serving a 15-month jail sentence for contempt of court, says he has put out a contract on the life of President Reagan and would kill him personally.

He was given a 15-month sentence in December.

Or contact your local Cancer Research Campaign through the telephone directory.

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## Glemp rounds on Warsaw for trying to enforce Church-State separation

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw

Poland's Roman Catholic Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, in his first important public statement since his return from a three-week South American visit - strongly criticized the regime's ban on crosses in public buildings.

In a sermon to several thousand people on Wednesday evening at Warsaw's St John's Cathedral, he expressed his support for students in the eastern towns of Mietne and Garwolin who have been protesting at the removal of crucifixes from their classrooms. Cardinal Glemp noted that Polish communities he visited in Argentina and Brazil faced no such problems in displaying religious symbols in public places.

"Who does the cross disturb?" he asked. "This is all done in the name of the principle of the separation of Church and State, but it is a law that hurts social feeling right."

The Primate's remarks are an indication that the Church is not prepared to give ground on what it regards as a fundamental matter of principle. Nor can the officially atheist Government back down on an ideological principle, especially when party hardliners among the delegates at a national party meeting beginning today in Warsaw are expected to criticize insufficient measures to check

the Church's expanding influence on walks of life.

The Government Spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, said the authorities, although wanting to avoid confrontation with the Church, are seeking the removal of all crosses to maintain the secular character of schools.

"Violations of the principle of

the separation of Church and State, are a law that hurts social feeling right."

Church-State separation are against the interests of the Church," he said, blaming the recent student protests on the influence of "over-zealous" priests and believers advocating "militant clericalism".

However, in his sermon,

Cardinal Glemp: "Who does the cross disturb?"

Church-State separation are against the interests of the Church," he said, blaming the recent student protests on the influence of "over-zealous" priests and believers advocating "militant clericalism".

However, in his sermon,

### Volga city renamed after Andropov

Moscow (NYT). - After a month's delay, the Soviet leadership has decided on a variety of memorials to the late Yuri Andropov, including giving his name to a 1,000-year-old Volga River city where he started his political career in the 1930s.

For the city, Rybinsk, it was a replay of an earlier name change that proved so inauspicious that it was reversed in barely a decade. In 1946 Stalin decreed that Rybinsk take the name of one of his associates, Alexander Shcherbakov, the Moscow city chief who died the previous year. In 1957, Nikita Khrushchev, reversing a series of name changes of the Stalin era, restored the old name to the delight of its citizens.

Although Andropov, who died on February 9 after 15 months in power, was generally opposed to personal aggrandizement, it is customary for Soviet leaders to be honoured after their deaths.

When Leonid Brezhnev died in November 1982, his name was given to a variety of places and institutions, including the new automotive center of Naberezhnye Chelny, on the Kama River, built during his rule.

Rybinsk, now named for Andropov, was mentioned in Russian chronicles as early as 1071 A.D. It gained an approximation of its current name by the end of the fifteenth century, and received a city charter in 1771.

The name is taken from the Russian Ryba, meaning fish. Under Peter the Great, it developed a canal system that made it one of the principal ports on the upper Volga. In 1941, a hydroelectric dam created the Rybinsk reservoir, one of the largest man-made bodies of water in the Soviet Union. Today, Rybinsk is a manufacturing centre with a population of a quarter million.

The announcement of names commemorating Andropov was made jointly by the Communist Party's Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme

### 14 killed in ball game gun battle

From Our Own Correspondent  
Delhi

Police and security forces in north-east India are hunting a gang of extremist rebels who opened fire at paramilitary police watching a volleyball match in Imphal, in the state of Manipur.

In the exchange of fire 14 people died. The Home Minister, Mr P. C. Sethi, said in Parliament yesterday that two of the dead were members of the Central Reserve Police Force, and one was a regular policeman. A 10-year-old boy also died. Thirty-five people were injured, including three children.

The gunmen, said to be members of the left-wing People's Liberation Army, lay in wait until the volleyball match between the Border Security Force and the Manipur Rifles ended. They got away with two rifles belonging to the police.

Mr Sethi said three of the gang were captured. There was another exchange of fire between extremists and security forces later, also in Imphal.

Rebel gangs have a long history of terrorist activity in the north-eastern states of India. While Mr Sethi was speaking another minister in Mizoram, the state next to Manipur, announced that no trials would be held with the Mao rebels there.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi: Voice of the party.

### Gandhi clan acts to quell revolt

From Michael Hamlyn  
Delhi

The high command of Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party moved to quell a revolt in the Maharashtra party yesterday over the trial for corruption of the former Chief Minister, Mr Abder Rahman Antulay.

After the Maharashtra Legislative Party unanimously voted to bring forward a Bill which would get its former chief off the hook by making it clear that any prosecution must have state approval, the General Secretary of the All-India party, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister's son, announced that such a Bill would not be supported by the party.



Royal welcome: King Juan Carlos of Spain and Queen Sophia (behind him) getting an enthusiastic reception in Montreal.

### Bulgarian suspect seeks check-up

Rome (AP) - Italian lawyers defending Sergei Ivanov Antonov, the Bulgarian charged in connection with the shooting of the Pope, sought yesterday to keep him out of jail by asking that a court-appointed doctor examine him.

Father Stanislaw Binko, the priest from the nearby town of Garwolin who has been assisting the students, was summoned for questioning by police on Wednesday in connection with ringing church bells during the student protests.

Meanwhile, no progress was reported in resolving the dispute at the Stanislaw Staszic Agricultural Training School in Mietne, where classes have been suspended since last week after a sit-in by 400 students, protesting against an edict to remove crucifixes from the walls of classrooms.

Father Stanislaw Binko, the priest from the nearby town of Garwolin who has been assisting the students, was summoned for questioning by police on Wednesday in connection with ringing church bells during the student protests.

Signor Giuseppe, who heads the defence team, acted 24 hours after an appeals court ordered the Bulgarian returned to prison from house arrest to await possible trial.

Mr Antonov, aged 36, is in a precarious state of health,

Signor Consolo said. A doctor working for the defence, Dr

Giovanni De Vincenti, said of the papal assassination attempt, who had ordered Mr Antonov released from prison and placed under house arrest on December 21, Mr Antonov, the former Rome chief of the Bulgarian airline, was arrested in November, 1982.

Bulgarian officials denounced the decision and gave a warning that "his imprisonment will undoubtedly cast a shadow on Bulgarian-Italian relations". A statement carried by Bulgaria's BTA news agency called the court decision "an anti-human and which grossly infringes basic human rights".

Signor Consolo filed his request with Judge Ilario Martella, the chief investigator

Martella rules on the latest request.

The Bulgarian is accused of aiding the right-wing Turkish terrorist, Mahmut Ali Agca, in the shooting of Pope John Paul II on May 13, 1981. One former Bulgarian Embassy employee and four Turks have also been charged in the case.

The judge had acted in December on a defence request that cited doctors' reports that Mr Antonov was suffering severe mental and physical deterioration in prison.

Signor Consolo said yesterday Mr Antonov would remain at his flat at least until Judge

### Vietnamese concession to Asean on Cambodia

From Tony Dubois  
Melbourne

Vietnam has agreed to talks with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) over the issue of Cambodia and Vietnam's occupation of that country without any pre-condition.

Agreement was reached in Camberra yesterday during the second day of talks between Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, and Mr Nguyen Co Thach, the Vietnamese counterpart.

Mr Hayden cautiously hailed the Vietnamese move as a significant concession, and said that Australia would pass on Vietnam's decision to Asean members.

Previously Vietnam had linked any question of talks on its role in Cambodia to general talks about the withdrawal of all foreign troops in the region.

Asean's position has been that the talks should be confined to the question of Cambodia and the Vietnamese.

Speaking at a joint press conference with Mr Thach yesterday Mr Hayden said that no timetable had been set for the talks, but they would look at the whole issue of Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia.

Mr Thach made it clear on Wednesday after his first round of talks with Mr Hayden that Vietnam would withdraw its troops from Cambodia only when the Chinese threat was removed.

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## SPECTRUM

## The female backlash

## MILAN FASHION

baroque splendour of Gianni Versace. Armani is the purist from the design-conscious north, where style is a way of life and rococo interiors are remoulded in plexiglass and steel.

This season Versace produced a magnificent collection based on the hourglass shape of the female body he believes in.

His coats are tailored, strongly-shaped and very big, following the curves like a gigantic shadow. Big round shoulders winged back into the waist and out again in a pocketed hipline. The back was caught into a half-belt or marlingale that is the mascot of this Milan.

The designers are fighting trench warfare, with the big bold coat the most insistent fashion garment for next winter. But even the heavy manly overcoats get the softness of tender Italian tweeds, the new brown sweatered with cream and lavished with luxurious fur.

The battle of Milan is between Giorgio Armani and Gianni Versace, who each represent a total, consistent and very different view of women. They also echo different images of Italy: Versace the sensuous sun-baked south and the

spicy, wild, simple safari-style of the hot sun and silk.

Giorgio Armani is the designer who summed up the voluptuous image of Italian fashion last season with an androgynous collection, much copied on the runways and in the streets where the collar and tie is the essential accessory.

In a triumphant collection Armani has produced the female backlash. Instead of just trousers, there is a sexy new skirt, wrapped like a bath towel around the hips, either slim and mid-calf or very short. Armani's line is still based on men's tailoring. His big blazer comes in stunning fabrics - pinstripes, checks and jacquards with surprising colours like berry red or green sprouting in a grey ground. His knits, too, are borrowed from the male wardrobe, with the sports jacket tucked neatly into pleat-front pants. But under them are rounded Peter Pan collars.

With wit and style, Armani has turned his back on cross-dressing at night, with a shirtfront naked at the back. Gianfranco Ferré has taken up the manly line. His cream cashmere-blended worn with flat brogues, and under engulfing wide-brimmed hats, emphasises the importance of the hourglass silhouette. His big coats are very simple, cut in a Y-shape from an exaggerated shoulder line, rather than the fussy style with reverential bows and a tie-curt. He has acquired two also important proportions: good in width and for little cincoats turned inside out. Ferré and others - have used brown - and black.

The Fendi sisters have turned the fur trend into art form. They used pelts, ruffed like Odeon curtains, for the pockets and a collar of pale Irish tweed. Designer Karl Lagerfeld sees women as birds.

Maruccia Mandelli of Krizia has a show-stopping day with abstract-patterned coats, matched to the same effect in fur. She also uses the more traditional sequins and jet beads, and has black paillets decorating a cardigan jacket in fake crocodile.

Italian fashion celebrates the female form, but also it celebrates the country's fabrics. Ermanno's collection had manish materials with dashes of colour in the herringbone tweed, checks and pinstripes. Leather is another Milan speciality. Mario Valentino had the ubiquitous crocodile markings, and leather finely pleated and ruched like cloth.

Fur accessories - a gilet, T-shirt or cape - were an important part of the Fendi collection. They were also a theme in Milan, with designers like Basile and Soprani who are arch exponents of the bizarre. Soprani's is the ethnic Milanese style. Soprani used little pieces of pebble or indigo-dyed fur to make his wrapped and soft draped collection. Basile's skirts were wrapped like Armani's to give the bath towel effect.

Red and a touch of green were the only colours to come up strongly among the spectrum of brown, cream, chestnut to capuccino. The Missoni's are kings of colour, using durable mixtures of pinstripes and patterns for their Milano coats, and with leather down the sleeve seam and waist with their new rose pattern. The sweater dress is another lead line, mostly in cream, with pale pink.

It is a marked improvement in craftsmanship for the Missoni's. The Milanese are

wizards with sequins from Laura Biagiotti's creative seamstress, and Krizia's newest units with sequined capes across the shoulders.

Maruccia Mandelli of Krizia has a show-stopping day with abstract-patterned coats, matched to the same effect in fur. She also uses the more traditional sequins and jet beads, and has black paillets decorating a cardigan jacket in fake crocodile.

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Big leather coats or tight leather skirts wrapped over jersey dresses were some of the best things at Cavalli. The French designer Claude Montana had a light touch with creamy tweeds and beat the Italians at the sweater game with a group of soft cream tunics with leather shoulders over slim pleated skirts.

The Milanese obsession with design makes it produces some delicate clothes but some odd effects. The latest coat for design treatment is plates which are draped in high-neck shapes and looks very strange in the racket if not on the plate.

It is a marked improvement in craftsmanship for the Missoni's. The Milanese are



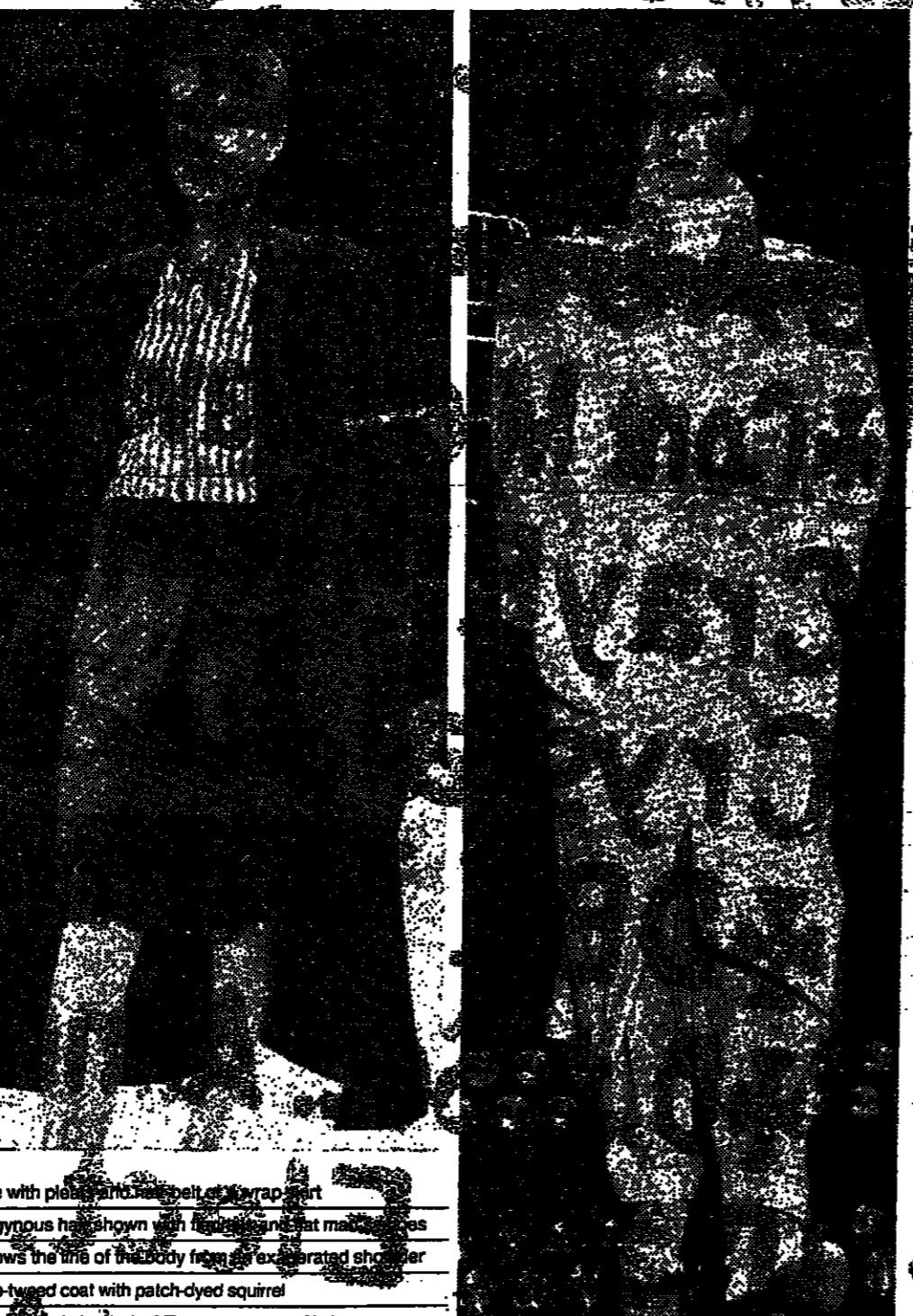
ARMANI (above/above right): Standing the hourglass silhouette with plain and belted coats.

FERRÉ (right): The double-breasted trench with wide shoulders and androgynous has shown with his designs that man clothes

VERSACE (top right): The hourglass silhouettes in a tailored trench that follows the line of the body from an exaggerated shoulder

FENDI (below right): The double-breasted jacket with a wide belt on a double-breasted coat with patch-dyed squirrel

KRIZIA (below right): A double-breasted jacket with a wide belt on a double-breasted coat with patch-dyed squirrel



## Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

- Travel: Cruising up the Nile and in the Grenadines
- Family Money: How the Budget affects savers and investors
- Sport: Can Oxford triumph for the ninth time in a row? Scottish grand slam?
- Out of the past: How to be a local historian



PLUS: News from home and abroad; Simon Callow strikes a blow for actors' rights; review of this month's video cassettes; Family Life at the St John Ambulance Museum; Drink on wine clubs and Eating Out on wine bars with acceptable food; Bridge, Chess and concise crossword.

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## More scenes of horror and depravity

Are you already a member of the Moreover Video Library? If so, you will be pleased to hear that we are expanding the video nasty side of our operation. Here are just a few of the new features that have entered our video nasty list in the last couple of months.

The Brains that Conquered Britain. A horror fantasy movie about a brains (code name Bernard) that learns to think for itself and then makes other people think the same way. It reserves its most hideous tortures for the so-called "wet" people, whose softness and wooliness drive the brain wild.

The Horror of The Whitehouse. Is it possible that a perfectly ordinary person can be turned into an avenging fury simply by contact with a television set? Unlike. Yet this film convincingly conveys such a transformation, depicting in grisly detail what happens when a sincere BBC producer triggers off a lust for revenge in a member of the public. Not for the faint-hearted. (This movie is a

remake of the earlier *I Was Lord Longford's Companion*.)

The Backlash Massacre. A grim feature about a perfectly ordinary person who is summoned for jury service to decide whether a certain film can "deprave and corrupt". She decides not, but then finds on her return to her family that she is deprived and corrupted.

To put it another way, she describes the film she has seen to her husband, who faints right away. In the final ghastly scene she is seen writing an article for *The Guardian* on "My Experience as an Obscenity Jury Member", oblivious to the pleas of her family to come back to the *Daily Express*.

The All-Night Sitting. An ordinary MP invites his colleagues to a session of extracts from banned video horror films, to persuade them to vote for his private member's bill. But things go terribly wrong when they are so disturbed that they demand to see more. Not for those who believe in the power of democracy.

Lady Chatterley's Revenge. An absolutely terrifying fantasy film, in which it is imagined that the D. H. Lawrence story went wrong from the start. That, for instance, Her Ladyship rejected the gamekeeper's advances, that His Lordship recovered from his war injuries and that the household continued on a conventional and contented path.

She Thought She Knew It All. An even more absolutely terrifying fantasy film, in which it is imagined that a woman of iron will takes over Britain and forces all men to do exactly what she wants them to do. The scenes shot on location in Cheltenham - may shock many people who thought they were unshockable.

The Living Planet. The most terrifying film of all time, in which it is suggested that everything in nature eats something else in nature. The suffering involved is quite unimaginable, yet presenter David Attenborough seems to think that this is the way the cookie crumbles. Not re-

commended to lovers of little mammals living in the desert.

BBC, Nine O'clock News.

An anthology of the most

sickening murders, traffic

accidents, bombings, airline

disasters to those no

longer turned on by news paper disaster reports.

Greer. A monster from the

past returns to haunt a new

generation of men.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 294)

ACROSS

1 Routine procedure

5 Remains fresh (5)

6 Irish national group (1,1,1)

9 Crumbly (7)

11 Satan's kingdom (4)

12 Spring (7)

14 Heart checker (13)

16 Descriptive name (7)

18 Location (4)

21 Indian corn (5)

22 Female demon (7)

23 Mesh (3)

24 Correct (5)

25 Overshadow (7)

DOWN

1 Light pastry (4)

2 Lancer arch (3)

3 Adornment (3)

4 Persistent

5 Onslaught (5)

6 Withdraw from

7 men (7)

8 Planting wheat (8)

9 Pound (5)

10 Exclamation mark (8)

11 Vert

12 Enclosed (5)

13 Quinquagesima (7)

14 Ambush (4)

15 Family 26 Opener

16 Ozone (3)

17 Parvenu (5)

18 Gestapo (7)

19 Tie (7)

20 Plain (4)

21 Buffet (7)

22 Shelters (7)

23 Tie (7)

24 Paso doble (7)

25 Usual (7)

26 Tie (7)

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# ROAD TO SHARE

Dividends

Profit

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Research

Marketing

Customer service

Quality

Environment

Flexibility

Technology

Partnerships

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Success

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PART OF 3i

## FRIDAY PAGE

## MEDICAL BRIEFING

## New drink cancer risk

The Chancellor of the Exchequer may have helped our social life by reducing the duty on wine and limiting his increase in the tax on beer to only two pence this week, but for health reasons he may have done better to more actively discourage drinking.

It is already established that drinking among other things increases the risk of getting cancer of the mouth, throat and gullet, but now a new study has also established a link with cancer of the lung and rectum.

The study, carried out in Hawaii, has followed more than 8,000 men since the mid-1960s. Results, just out in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, show that about 30 pints of beer a month – not a great deal by many people's standards – can treble your chances of getting rectal cancer, and around 1.5 litres or more of wine or whisky a month double the risk of getting lung cancer.

## Take no aspirins

If your child comes out in a rash or hives immediately after eating certain foods, or indeed if you are one of those rare adults affected, be sure not to take aspirin just before or after the offending food.

This warning comes from doctors at St George's Hospital Medical School in London. A 14-year-old boy treated there recently almost died after taking two aspirin for a mild headache, and then eating peanut cake, to which he was allergic.

Around 5-10 per cent of the population are allergic to something, most of these individuals will react abnormally to one or two foods.

"Delayed" reactions, such as migraine or stomach pains, can occur several hours after eating such a food. Aspirin may help relieve the symptoms.

But in the British Medical Journal Dr Andrew Cant and his colleagues at St George's say they are worried that it could be downright dangerous for people who have a more immediate allergic reaction to foods to take aspirin within half an hour of eating.

After eating the peanut cake the 14-year-old patient at St George's suffered a short-lived swelling of the lips and face and a slight choking sensation. But 30 minutes later he collapsed, unable to breathe.

Animal experiments show that aspirin can make the lining of the gut more permeable to molecules which would not normally get through. It seems that the young man's body was, as a result of the aspirin/peanut combination, suddenly subjected to far more "peanut" molecules than usual – and it reacted angrily.

## Undo the twist

Hardly anyone has a perfect spine, but the vast majority of people with slight curvatures never notice any deformity. To understand the possible convolutions of the spine it must be considered in three dimensions.

About 20 to 30 per cent of schoolchildren in their early teens would appear to have a curved spine, some with more pronounced "S" bends than others. Looked at sideways the perfect spine curves outwards slightly just below the shoulders, but some people have flat backs or even a hollow there.

It is the children with hollow backs who have problems: to compensate for the hollow the spine twists. About two in 1,000 children are affected: they have a snake-shaped, twisted spine deformity known as scoliosis.

For many years treatment was conservative: the child wore a contraption designed to unbend the snake. But, as Professor Robert Dickson of Leeds University's department of orthopaedics points out, this was of little value.

Medical attention then switched to surgery and attempts have been made to correct the sideways bend which, in principle, should encourage the spine to uncurl. But, although the bend can be corrected, this operation has no effect on the twist.

So Professor Dickson and colleagues have taken the surgical solution one step further and have started to tackle the primary cause of the deformity. Using similar surgical procedures Professor Dickson creates the round back instead. So far this has given positive results with 30 patients: both bend and twist are much improved.

## Schizophrenia link

Doctors are concerned that drug abuse could cause schizophrenia, or at least bring on the disease at an earlier age in those already likely to suffer from it. Last month a letter to the *Lancet* linked petrol sniffing in the Gilbert Islands in the Pacific with the exceptionally high incidence of schizophrenia there.

The news prompted Dr Malcolm Weller and colleagues at Friern Hospital in London to disclose that schizophrenic patients admitted to the hospital were more likely than those with other mental illnesses to be drug abusers. They also found that, on average, schizophrenics who abuse drugs such as cannabis, LSD and cocaine develop their illness at a far younger age.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Miss X is a 37-year-old state registered nurse. She has pleaded guilty to stealing more than £3,000 worth of jewellery from her patients. She has a previous conviction for theft, taking small sums of money from patients in her care. But a report prepared by a social worker reveals a history of divorce, drink and depression. A psychiatrist's report suggests she might be suitable for outpatient psychiatric treatment.

The question is: should she be given another chance, and be put on probation, or does she deserve to go to prison, and for how long? The 40 assembled lawyers ponder and discuss. It's a little like the old radio programme *Consider Your Verdict*, in which the ghost voice eventually reveals the answer.

The voice here is in the more substantial form of a High Court judge. In the real-life case on which this example was based, the Court of Appeal thought that the correct sentence was nine months imprisonment. On to the next case.

There is, of course, a serious purpose behind the guessing game. It is part of a seminar given for lawyers who have been appointed assistant recorders – the lowest part-time tier of the judiciary, but one which often leads to grander judicial posts.

The recent correspondence in *The Times* about the education of lawyers and judges had paid little attention to one of its most controversial aspects – the training (or lack of it) they are given when appointed to the bench.

The induction course, which all new appointees have to attend lasts only three and a half days. A visit to a prison and to two or three institutions for young delinquents and a few days sitting with an experienced judge in the Crown Court, and the new part-time judge is ready to send convicted offenders to prison for years (though he is not allowed to preside over the most serious cases like murder or rape).

If he eventually becomes a circuit judge – the lowest tier of the full-time judiciary – he will be asked to attend more advanced refresher seminars, also lasting three and a half days, every five years.

## The idea of guiding judges is a new one

The idea that judges should be given even minimal guidance in how to do their job is a new one. When, in the 1960s, Lord Parker, the Lord Chief Justice, started holding one-day conferences on sentencing, many judges objected violently, treating it as an affront to their independence and ability.

In 1972 a committee of the reform group, Justice, recommended that judges should undergo a three to six months' training period. Six years later, an interdepartmental working party chaired by Lord Justice Bridge suggested a two-week training programme for new appointees without experience in criminal work.

That modest proposal was eventually reduced to the present three and a half day seminar. Ironically, the last chairman of the Judicial Studies Board, which runs the seminars, was Mr Justice Webster who, when still a QC, was chairman of the Justice committee advocating up to six months' training.

The judicial hopefuls meet in a pleasant but unostentatious country house turned conference centre in Roehampton, south-west London.

The third day includes lectures from experts on various aspects of sentencing, bail, community service,

## Disorder in court

Do judges receive proper training?

Marcel Berlins and Clare Dyer report



turning a barrister with no previous criminal experience into a trial judge within a few weeks. "Throughout your career at the bar, you're constantly dealing with areas of the law with which you're not familiar.

"The people that come to our seminars are the cream. Either they have been invited because we think they are judge-potential, or they have applied, and we've vetted them thoroughly."

The high opinion of the new judicial intake is by no means shared by all the barristers who have to appear before them. Senior judges privately admit that the rising crime rate has put the selection system under pressure. "Casual" judges outnumber the full-timers, and the pool of potential judges is still too small to produce enough high-quality candidates at the lower level – recorders and circuit judges.

## They may become jacks-of-all-trades

Last year Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, found it necessary to issue judges with a "child's guide" to summing up to the jury. "It is surprising how much of the time of the Court of Appeal Criminal Division is taken up with examining mistakes by the trial judge in his direction to the jury on points of law. Most of these mistakes are on straightforward points which one would not expect to cause any difficulty," he commented.

The judicial establishment will not publicly admit that inadequate training may be part of the reason for judicial errors. Some of the judges themselves are, privately, more forthcoming. "Looking back, I think it was a mistake to allow me to take criminal trials," admitted one. "I didn't really have the feel for it. I wasn't confident in summing up to the jury, and I was in agonies over the sentences."

The Roehampton seminars concentrate exclusively on criminal trials and sentencing. Many of the judges, however, will eventually spend much of their time on the bench dealing with civil cases. For that, no training or guidance is available.

Circuit judges sit in the county courts as well as the Crown Court. They deal with divorce, disputes over contracts, money, personal injury claims, and landlord and tenant issues. High Court judges spend most of their time on civil cases. Many of them do not sit in the criminal courts at all.

Another quirk of the system is that High Court judges are not necessarily allocated cases in a branch of the law in which they have any experience. However specialised their practice at the bar, they may have to become jacks-of-all-trades when they are put on the bench.

In his memoirs, Sir Neville Faulls, a libel specialist, tells of his appointment to the High Court, as a divorce judge. He reveals that his only claim to expertise in his new field came from spending his Christmas holidays "reading very impartially" the leading text-book on divorce.

A more recently appointed judge whose specialism had been in a somewhat arcane field of commercial law admitted to a friend that he was having difficulties assessing the amount of damages in personal injuries cases.

It must increasingly be questioned whether it is fair to litigants, or to defendants in criminal trials, that they should have to bear the consequences of a new judge's mistakes while he finds his feet.

## Rodney Cowton meets the first woman to command a troop of sappers

The number of British servicemen in and around the Falkland Islands is an official secret.

What is not a secret, is that it includes very few women. If you lump together the women members of the armed forces, plus the red-cloaked nurses of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, and the female staff of Naafi, then the female members of the garrison tot up to about 45, making at best one woman to every 100 men.

Among them is Jan Harper, a 26-year-old lieutenant in the Corps of Royal Engineers, a lady whom readers of *The Times* met last summer when we recorded her success in coming top of a course for young officers, of whom she was the only woman, at the Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham Barracks, near Rochester in Kent.

Since then she has been learning to command a troop of 38 men, coping with the resistance of men who think women should have no place in a front-line corps like the sappers and living in a Falklands accommodation unit in which she was the only woman among 800 men.

In between times she has been falling off motor-cycles, trying to catch fish and passing her professional examinations to become a chartered engineer as member of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Last September she took command of 1 Troop, of 53 Field Squadron at Waterbeach in Cambridgeshire. This was accompanied by a certain amount of middle-aged masculine spluttering into gin-and-tonics and wondering what the army was coming to.

Neither did the 38 men, or "lads" as she calls them, of her troop seem very enthusiastic. She now says: "I think having a girl as troop commander was just horrendous for them. They were given a hard time by other troops and called the Feticcato Troop and things like that."

She says an awful lot of people think there should not be girls doing her sort of job. "If I am on an exercise people do very often give the impression of wondering 'what

## The Falklands' female factor



Some men, Jan Harper concedes, have been downright rude

on earth are you doing here?" Some men, she concedes, have been downright rude.

Though she does not tell all of it, it seems to have been on an exercise that she was accepted as having made the grade. That was last September when after only about three weeks as a Troop Commander, her troop came second out of seven in a week-long exercise practising engineering and infantry skills.

## THE ARTS

## Opera

## Personal pageant

Gloriana  
Coliseum



There is an ugly-duckling syndrome that tempts people to set a high value on *Gloriana* precisely because it is one of the least regarded of Britten's operas, and so the excessively sour reception the piece received at its Coronation premiére has tended to be replaced by exaggerated claims on those rare occasions when it has been revived. But obstinately the thing refuses to turn into a swan. It remains a spatchcock of triumph and tedium, even in a performance as positive as the present revival at the Coliseum.

One might guess that the reasons for its awkwardness stem from its mixture of state pageant with intimate character play, but then *Ida* is not so bad a piece. Or one might suppose that Tudor history has been too much vulgarized to be made into opera, but then there is the example of *Trovatore* to show that the period can still be seen with an intensely personal vision.

Perhaps the real problem is that Britten was irked by what he felt would be people's expectations of a celebratory Elizabethan opera. The tragedy of *Gloriana* could then be seen as the tragedy of Essex it takes as its centre: the tragedy of a free spirit subject to unyielding, impalpable authority.

The odd thing is that the opera does not, like its hero, rebel. It even seems to welcome the division into framed, static scenes, which is especially curious when Britten's operatic talent was so much for transition: *The Turn of the Screw*, his next opera, was to be practically all transition, and in adapting *Billy Budd* from four acts to two he reached towards the same goal. But *Gloriana* left him in disjointed pieces, depriving himself of the opportunity to make the work powerfully his own, and instead creating a framework in which the shortest scenes go best: the second act, which neatly parades the courtly, the personal and then the two combined, far outshines the other two, in which the scenes are long enough for transition to be attempted and to founder, as it does bewilderingly in the final montage.

It seems unlikely that any foundering at this point can be blamed on the orchestral performance under Mark Elder, which was hugely enthusiastic and forward-

Paul Griffiths

## Cinema

## Revelation of animals

Never Cry Wolf (15)

Classics Chelsea, Haymarket

Terms of Endearment (15)

Empire

Toute une nuit

ICA Cinema

The settings are breathtaking: the wolves are majestic, and the climactic stampede of the caribou herd is a *tour de force* of animal filming. *Never Cry Wolf* is a Disney production, but a long way from the naiveties of the old *True Life Adventures*. Moments of the old anthropomorphic humour (the mice who watch in sorrowful disapproval the consumption of their relatives) are disarmingly amiable.

*Terms of Endearment*, written and directed by James L. Brooks, has been nominated for most of this year's Academy Awards; for the past quarter it has remained near the top of America's box-office listings; and it has earned during that period something in the region of a hundred million dollars. A film with that kind of power over the public demands to be taken seriously, though in the case of *Terms of Endearment* this is not altogether easy.

James L. Brooks's name was made in television soap opera and, though that should not be held against anyone, it is all too apparent that the style has entered the soul. Watching this saga of thirty years in the life of a family as patently ordinary as the people of *Kramer vs. Kramer* or *Ordinary People*, it is impossible to resist the feeling of watching a long-running soap opera of which you have missed rather a lot of crucial episodes. Some characters (the heroine's elderly suitor) are introduced, but then left waiting around for a role to play: others disappear for fifteen years of screen time, and then are abruptly reintroduced without anyone so much as saying welcome back.

The central characters, who at least stay around for most of the time, are a wacky, middle-aged Texas lady (Shirley MacLaine) and her daughter (Debra Winger) between whom there is a close but edgy relationship. Late in the day the lady embarks on a reluctant but fulfilling love affair with a boozey and aging astronaut who has been her neighbour for fifteen years before the thing comes to fruition.

The daughter has her own problems with her boring, sexy, unfaithful teacher husband and a difficult elder son, but strives for ultimate grace with a protracted and painful death from cancer.

In the way of soap operas, the narrative is not impelled by any real logic of drama or relationships, but leaps from one set-piece scene to the next, providing Shirley MacLaine with suitable opportunities to exhibit the kind of extravagant eccentricity and general show-off that wins Academy Awards. Jack Nicholson's quality as an actor is forcibly demonstrated in his ability to intimate some kind of depth and integrity in a character whose scattered scenes are written strictly in two dimensions.

*Toute une nuit* is the most accessible and unpretentious film of the Belgian "minimalist" filmmaker Chantal Akerman. By the standards of the director's *Jeanne Dielman* or *Les Rendez-vous d'Anna* this is a action-packed – a skillfully composed mosaic of one night in Brussels, with nice touches of sentimentality and wit.

David Robinson

مكتبة من الأصل

## THE ARTS

Harold Pinter recalls a terrible row he had with Kenneth Tynan in the early Sixties. He holds up a crystal paperweight to illustrate the point. "I said: 'What's to stop me writing a poem about this paperweight - how it changes in the light?' He said: 'Fine; but I would like to know who made it and how much he was paid.'"

It was a set-piece confrontation. On the one hand there was the view of the artist as isolated contemplative, content lovingly to observe and extend his own insights. On the other there was the artist as collective conscience, forever doomed to be engaged with political truth and social justice.

Pinter had always been in the former camp, regarding the works of politicians with "detached contempt". His job was simply to produce his resonant and ambiguous dramas and to let the world go hang. But over the last eleven years he has changed. It began with the overthrow of the Marxist Allende regime in Chile. He was shocked by the hypocrisy of the West. Steadily in the ensuing years he found himself becoming increasingly engaged - joining CND, campaigning on behalf of prisoners of conscience, participating in rallies.

Until recently, his work had remained unaffected by his new obsessions. Apart from a five-minute sketch entitled *Precisely* and a poem - *Before They Fall* - he had not attempted full-blooded political drama. Then he found himself in conversation with two attractive, intelligent Turkish girls at "what can loosely be called a party".

They spoke of some Turkish academics who had been imprisoned for belonging to a peace movement. The girls shrugged and said they probably deserved it. Pinter pointed out that the men would be tortured. "There was another shrug and then one of the girls told me: 'Oh, you are a man of such imagination. Torture means so much to you.'"

Pinter was outraged. He rushed home and, in three days, wrote *One for the Road*, a 45-minute play which has just opened at the Lyric Studio, Hammersmith, for a series of lunchtime performances. At last his new preoccupations had forced themselves into his work - the play is a harrowing anatomy of the psychology of torture. It could be set in any one of the 90 countries in which the United Nations says torture is practised. It is intended to make us see as plainly as possible the human truth behind such statistics.



"I think we'll be very lucky to get to the end of this century"

## The new light that burns within Harold Pinter

Interview by Bryan Appleyard

He explains: "It's to do with my fascination with our separation between reality and our interpretation of it. Our human experience can be totally distorted by these facts and it happens every day of the week. But it's not dislocated: for people having drinks at a cocktail party, it's exactly the same as when people talk about nuclear war. The words have simply become abstractions - people can't face them."

Pinter is speaking in the study of his house in Holland Park. He sits at a large and crowded though conspicuously neat desk. He chain-smokes

Black Russian cigarettes and occasionally a cigar. He sips white wine. His conversation is broken and faltering. He continually attempts different ways of saying things, rearranging the words in his sentences just as he nervously rearranges the objects on his desk - fractionally shifting the blotter or reordering one of the half-dozen piles of books.

He speaks with all the cautious self-consciousness of a man who is in the process of standing up and being counted: "This play comes out of my life and of my understanding of life. What we are encouraged to

think in the West is that we have a moral advantage, that we inhabit a superior moral position. But the United States brought down the Chilean regime and they're doing the same in Nicaragua. They are supporting the most fiendishly appalling system in El Salvador. If you shake hands with murderers you have no moral position."

Pinter's political obsessions have centred on the twin horrors of torture and nuclear war. Both he regards as having been distorted and abstracted by the language of politicians and our own inability to face

the truth. Repeatedly he goes back to the need to understand precisely what they entail.

"Before you recognize what the words mean there's nothing you can do about them. You're always going to be separated from that reality. The words and statistics that are used are not understood. People prefer not to think we are facing the end of the world; that torture involves the gravest humiliation that can happen to an individual."

Pinter believes he has woken up far too late. He is convinced the Americans are preparing to fight a limited nuclear war in Europe. He remembers sitting at a dinner party next to a high-ranking civil servant who said it was perfectly possible the Russians would bomb Glasgow and we would eliminate Vladivostok. "Have you told the people of Glasgow?" asked Pinter, "that we are right behind them?"

He is also convinced that, as part of the process of distortion, Britain is now a long way down the road to a dangerous authoritarianism: "I think it is more and more evident every day that we are becoming very, very close to any other damn police state."

At the same time he sees in the installation of cruise missiles an acceptance by the Government of the role of American satellite as clear as the relationship between, say, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. After some years of toying with the SDP he would now vote Labour purely because of Neil Kinnock's stance on nuclear weapons.

Pinter's position is not overall particularly astonishing one. His views are held by others. However, the urgency in his case arises from his new determination to eradicate any limitations on the role of the artist. He has no qualms about leaping feet-first into the debate, waving his credentials as artist and intellectual. Yet he still stands by the cooler uncertainties of his previous work: "I think all the plays I've written are attempts to understand people behaving in certain contexts. I don't know what I'm going to write next. Something to do with the situation we are now really faced with. You see now I do feel that there will be no writing, no entertainment, no drama whatsoever in a very short time unless we recognize the realities of the world in which we live. I think we'll be very lucky to get to the end of this century. In short, the quality of the light on the paperweight will have to be deferred."

Pinter's political obsessions have centred on the twin horrors of torture and nuclear war. Both he regards as having been distorted and abstracted by the language of politicians and our own inability to face

### Theatre

#### Marriage Lyric, Hammersmith

Considering that Gogol spent nine years over the composition of this farce, it is surprising that you can see so much of it coming in advance.

Court Councillor Podkolyossin (ancestor of Oblomov) reclines on his couch dreaming of marriage but swiftly going off the idea when his matchmaker comes up with a girl. Enter his friend Kochkaryov, a miserably married former customer who takes his revenge on the matchmaker by gazing upon her with Podkolyossin.

Unlike *The Government Inspector*, *Marriage* has no aims

in particular. But John Price constructs an engagingly innocent scarecrow from the old naval lieutenant, and Nick Dunning converts his military opposite into a falsetto, spindle-legged fop. Sam Dale's Friedegg, as if lately escaped from Frankenstein's laboratory in a vast-shouldered overcoat, is the unquestionable leader of this trio.

Philip Voss, face generally creased into a maniac Japanese grin, does a strenuous sales job for James Smith's perpetually lethargic hero (made up as Gogol's double), and achieves one amazingly prolonged paradox of laughter at his short-lived moment of triumph.

But the best of the show comes at its moments of relaxation, when the suitors gain admission to the pudding-like Agafya's presence and sit there incapable of speech amid the click of her aunt's knitting needles; or when Agafya (Maggie Wells) settles in for solitary hysterics on the momentous choice facing her.

Irving Wardle

Mike Alfreds's production goes along with the play and partly obliterates its loose ends through grotesque invention and sheer energy. With the exception of the grasping Chief Clerk Friedegg (known as Omeclette in other versions) the other suitors represent nothing

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click of her aunt's knitting needles; or when Agafya (Maggie Wells) settles in for solitary hysterics on the momentous choice facing her.

Irving Wardle

17 & 18 March 8.30pm

1 Lynne Littman's TESTAMENT

2 Bob Fosse's STAR 80

3 GATE MAYFAIR

4 Lucchino Visconti's THE LEOPARD

5 CATE BLOOMSBURY

6 GATE NOTTINGHILL

7 Lynne Littman's TESTAMENT

8 FINAL WEEK

9 GATE BLOOMSBURY

10 Lynne Littman's TESTAMENT

11 GATE MAYFAIR

12 GATE BLOOMSBURY

13 Lynne Littman's TESTAMENT

14 GATE BLOOMSBURY

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## Liberal publicity

The Liberal leader, David Steel, publicly casts off his blue-eyed choir-boy image today - in a four-page interview in the soft-porn *Penthouse* magazine.

Sandwiched between pukering Puss of the Year and full-frontals of "baronial bed hopper" Kristina, Steel reveals all, evidently in the name of self-seeking exposure. In an apparent attempt to titillate *Penthouse* readers, he recounts a code of conduct, which one of his supporters suggested as "God's Orders for Mankind": "It is forbidden for anyone to take part in unnatural sexual acts. Those who disobey get punished... the only way they can escape this punishment is to make a full confession to their doctor."

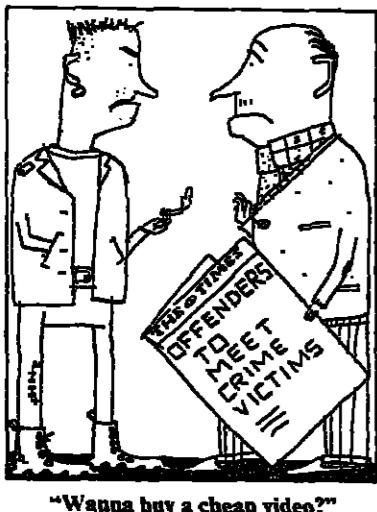
"What amused me", says Steel in *Penthouse* "is that this particular nutter lives in Tunbridge Wells, where the celebrated Yours Disgusted is evidently his neighbour." Those seeking details of the Liberal leader's intimacies will be disappointed. His only mention of flesh relates to that of Cyril Smith's. But worry not. He will not be appearing double-spread next month. After Steel, says *Penthouse*, is Koo Stark.

## Gnome curse

After resigning in protest at the sacking of *The Spectator*'s editor, Alexander Chancellor, Richard Ingrams learned yesterday that his job as television critic had been filled - by Alexander Chancellor. Such impudence competes with the dirty trick disclosures which Ingrams so eagerly makes in his *Private Eye*. "It is very low in my estimation", said the wounded Ingrams when I phoned to confirm the news yesterday. "I think it makes my public spirited resignation look silly." The man for whom few hearts are likely to bleed recovered to exclaim: "It makes *The Spectator* look even more absurd now."

Chancellor, who had happily accepted Ingrams' hospitality at a *Private Eye* lunch earlier in the week, said he had been "very touched" at the time of Ingrams' resignation. "But I had asked everybody not to resign", said Chancellor, who vacates his editorial chair to Charles Moore on March 22. Meanwhile two of the Old Guard, Auberon Waugh and "yo-yo" Ferdinand Mount, who both loyally resigned with Ingrams, have now scurried back to the Doughty Street fold.

BARRY FANTONI



## Ancestor worship

Lord Elgin - known to the Greeks as the "wicked El Gin" - has turned the future over the Parthenon marbles brought back by his great-great-grandfather, into a booming cottage industry. In his latest coup, he has persuaded a Japanese television company to finance a Greek historical documentary, using as a lever the somewhat tenuous link that his great-great-grandfather was the first British Ambassador to Japan. The film, to be shot this month at Elgin's ancestral home, Broomhall, Fife, will be produced in three versions: one for Japanese viewers, one for Greeks using Greek subtitles, and a personal edition for Lord Elgin with English subtitles, to help him promote his family history.

## Father knows best

The "rusty Ford Cortina brigade" need not offer their used onkers, I am told, to the 1st Classified magazine, launched this week. At an average cost of £100 to advertise a used car, they're simply priced out of the market, says managing director Nicola Cole, who tells us of her "privileged" life in a publicity blurb: "I grew up in an extremely large house in the country and have always had everything I needed. My environment brought me in touch with the best of all things, and therefore I see myself in an ideal position to oversee a magazine that is based on consumerism at a Cartier level. Her father, Hugh Begg, who is puffed as "one of the founders of *The Sunday Times* (that makes him at least 162 years old), put paid to that: "It is an upmarket Exchange and Mart." He should know. As chairman of Seymour Press, he is distributing it.

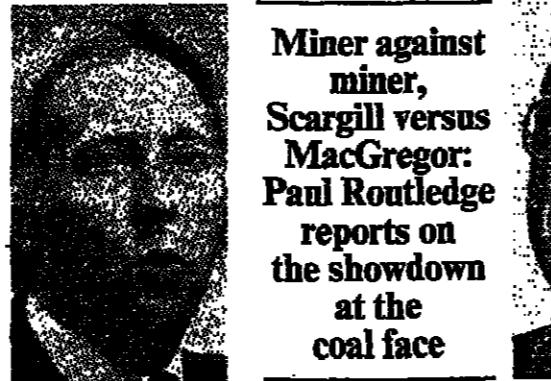
## Obus numbers

A ride on a London bus is being hailed as the "unlikeliest place" for the "fresh inspiration" of Peter Maxwell Davies's "No 11 Bus", which receives its world premiere at the Queen Elizabeth Hall next Tuesday. That's odd. His fellow composer Carl Davis wrote "Variations on a Bus Route", which was premiered at the Royal Festival Hall a year ago. Mind you, it was inspired by the Number 31 route.

PHS

# A bitter war to lose

Miner against miner, Scargill versus MacGregor: Paul Routledge reports on the showdown at the coal face



by withdrawing the list and pumping hundreds of millions of pounds into the industry to keep open uneconomic pits - most of which have, incidentally since closed.

What scope is there for a compromise this time round? None, it would seem. By insisting on an end to all pit closures except on grounds of seam exhaustion, the National Union of Mineworkers is effectively demanding the right to manage the industry - a demand that no management and no government could concede.

The coal industry is producing more than it can sell, and proposes to close pits with the capacity of some four million tonnes in the coming financial year, roughly the equivalent of 20 pits employing 20,000 men. Most of those redundancies would be voluntary, with

pitmen over 21 eligible for £1,000 for each year of service.

The coal board believes that if the redundancy lists could be opened, they would be oversubscribed. But the battle is not being fought on the ideological battleground chosen by the NUM, and most cogently expressed by Mr Arthur Scargill in his first presidential address: "The first priority for the union is to protect the coal industry from the ravages of the market mechanism, the short-sightedness of politicians and the deliberate political decisions designed to destroy our industry, jobs and communities. If we do not save our pits from closure, then we can expect for being made redundant. The offer ranges from £5,217 for a 21-year-old to £36,480 for a man aged 49, assuming average weekly earnings of £165.

So it will come down to a contest between hard cash and union loyalty. In the past, money has talked louder than loyalty.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

## Dimbleby: a victory for free speech

which Hattersley is due to appear should be chaired by Mr Dimbleby, so that he would never be seen again.

The NUJ has for some time now been moving into an intolerant and censoring phase which should be deeply disturbing not only to those of its members who are against intolerance and censoring but to all those members of the public who care about free speech and believe that the NUJ should care about it too. There was the scandalous case of Mr Ronald Spark, who was actually expelled from the union (though the expulsion was later "commuted" to a temporary suspension) for writing, during the Falklands war, about two other members of the union in terms which suggested that they were traitors. The charge was as baseless as it was offensive, but the action taken against Mr Spark was doubly scandalous in that the two journalists whose integrity and loyalty had thus been impugned did not themselves initiate action against him. They preferred, honourably and sensibly, to ignore Mr Spark's comments; it was two of the union's most egregious busybodies of the far left who took it upon themselves to complain on behalf of men who did not wish to complain.

Score another, in the same column, for the defeat of the NUJ's attempt to stop the programme. It had been obvious all along that the majority of BBC journalists in the relevant sections did not want to go on strike, whatever view they held on Mr Dimbleby's business activities, and equally obvious that it was the formal instruction by the union's executive that caused them to change their minds temporarily, only to change it back when the executive's call was declared illegal in the courts. It must be added here that the brief change of mind must have been influenced by the likelihood that for them to disobey an order given by their union's leaders would result in disciplinary proceedings being taken against them by those leaders. Such proceedings could lead to their expulsion from the union, with potentially ruinous consequences for them should they, for instance, ever wish to work for employers with a journalists' closed shop - to say nothing of the fact that their expulsion would almost certainly lead to their BBC work itself being "blacklisted".

It is not pleasant to know that such intimidation is being practised in any union, let alone one which should at all times defend freedom of speech; it is even less pleasant to realize that without the court action the intimidation would almost certainly have been successful. And while I am on the subject of things which are not pleasant, I might as well add that it is not pleasant to see the attempt being made in some NUJ quarters to maintain that the attack on Mr Dimbleby is based on their own supposed conflict of interests he may have between his outside business and his impartial role in BBC television. There may well be such a conflict, but the campaign to bring him to heel has nothing to do with it: the campaign concerns solely his conflict with the NUJ, and even that is not his conflict but Mr Pole-Carey's. So good: the attack on Mr Dimbleby and the BBC was beaten off. I suppose it is too much to ask of the BBC that they should from now on ensure that all programmes on

is a crank's charter, but it is no longer ignored in practice.

In one of the two cases I refer to a journalist, Mr Frank Dunkley, wrote an article in the *Kentish Independent* in which he referred to a woman member of Greenwich Council. His remarks about her were distasteful; I do not repeat them here. But, like the two journalists attacked by Mr Spark, the woman referred to did not complain to the NUJ; nor, it seems, has she taken legal action. The leader of Greenwich Council took it on himself to lodge a complaint with the NUJ; the union's complaints committee went into action, and the upshot was that Mr Dunkley was fined £200 for "conduct detrimental to the profession of journalism" and breach of the Code of Conduct, and told that if he did not pay the fine he would be expelled from the union.

What is more ominous still is that Mr Dunkley has now ceased to write the regular column in which the words appeared, "not wishing", as he puts it, "to shoulder the worry of possible complaints committee hearings". Intimidation and censorship have combined in triumph: a union supposed to be dedicated to free speech, urged into action by a busybody who was not the subject of the words complained of, has not only failed, as was its plain duty, to tell the busybody that journalists have the right to say what they like.

1. A journalist has a duty to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards.
2. A journalist shall at all times defend the principle of the freedom of the Press and other media in relation to the

From the union's code of conduct

provide evidence of intolerance and censorship which are more disturbing. There has long been an NUJ document called the Code of Conduct, and breaches of it can be punished with reprimands, fines, suspension or expulsion. Its provisions are either ridiculously obtuse ("A journalist shall not accept bribes...") or impudent in their claim to regulate the content of members' work ("A journalist shall only mention a person's race, colour, creed, illegitimacy, marital status or lack of it, gender or sexual orientation if this information is strictly relevant..."). But the Code of Conduct cannot be dismissed as a crank's charter ignored in practice; it

within the law, and that the journalists' union will always uphold that right, but has itself denied the right of free speech to one of its members, and silenced his regular exercise of that right.

You may think that dereliction of duty on the part of the union could go farther. You would be wrong. The other case, though more trivial in form, is worse still: it concerns Mr Terry Lovell and an article he wrote in *The Sun*. This is how his entertaining article began:

Mirror, mirror on the wall, which is a woman's sexiest bit of all?

When you strip down to bare essentials to size up your assets, you automatically pick out what

raised. A contracting industry is a negative force with negative consequences all round."

This is the fundamentalist doctrine that fires the revolutionary guards of the NUM now roaming the moderate coalfields to "picket out" the pits where the men are proving indifferent to the Scargill line. The message is often unwelcome, and a gap is clearly opening between the activists and the rank

The management's dilemma is how to get the silent majority to speak up and pull the industry back from the brink of a long and damaging conflict. Secret balloting that began yesterday in Lancashire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, North Wales and the Midlands provides an escape route for those who want to stay at work, though if the pickets stay put (however unlawfully), the ingrained habit of not crossing a picket line could still prevail.

In an adroit move plainly designed to aid a heavy "NO" vote in the ballot, the board has sent a special issue of its monthly newspaper, *Coal News*, to all 180,000 miners setting out the lump sums they can expect for being made redundant. The offer ranges from £5,217 for a 21-year-old to £36,480 for a man aged 49, assuming average weekly earnings of £165.

So it will come down to a contest between hard cash and union loyalty. In the past, money has talked louder than loyalty.

you think are your best features. Perhaps you feel it is your beautiful eyes that turn men on. Or that your sensational legs grab the wolf whistles. Whatever you choose, it reveals the hidden you. It's all part of a new body language discovered by a top American psychologist. She calls it Body Love.

This harmless nonsense formed the substance of a complaint to the NUJ by a Miss Bachini. She claimed that she was "upset" by the "glances" of a man reading the article opposite her in a train, and when she bought the paper herself, she "became even more upset and angry". The most horrible thing about the story so far is that it is not altogether impossible that Miss Bachini was telling the truth; there may indeed be a woman so priggish, stupid, humourless and hysterical that she did experience what she claims to have felt. But Miss Bachini's problems, whether physical or psychological, are not, thank God, my concern. My concern is with the fact that Mr Lovell was haled before an NUJ complaints committee, "convicted" of "conduct detrimental to the interests of the union", in that he had "encouraged discrimination on grounds of gender" and "reprimanded".

Now these grotesque attacks on freedom of speech come from the very people who should be concerned about all other things to defend it - the country's main journalists' union. But it is important to understand that the far left does not control the NUJ (though, alas, it once again controls my own branch, because those of us who temporarily wrested control from them a few years ago eventually gave up the vain struggle to persuade moderates to come to the meetings). There are, on the union's executive committee, a good number of the political enemies of free speech; but they are still in a minority. Some of the friends of free speech must have betrayed that friendship (the recommendations of NUJ complaints committee) to be ratified by the NEC for free speech to have been struck such blows. And that is the most alarming aspect of the business, and the reason why I am glad that my own union was rebuffed by the BBC and by its own members who were willing to work with Mr Dimbleby despite his official condemnation as a pariah. It gives me no pleasure at all to welcome a defeat for the official (however unrepresentative) policy of a body I have happily belonged to all my working life. But a victory would have been yet another assault on free speech from those who should constitute its shield.

Two more recent cases, however, provide evidence of intolerance and censorship which are more disturbing. There has long been an NUJ document called the Code of Conduct, and breaches of it can be punished with reprimands, fines, suspension or expulsion. Its provisions are either ridiculously obtuse ("A journalist shall not accept bribes...") or impudent in their claim to regulate the content of members' work ("A journalist shall only mention a person's race, colour, creed, illegitimacy, marital status or lack of it, gender or sexual orientation if this information is strictly relevant..."). But the Code of Conduct cannot be dismissed as a crank's charter ignored in practice; it

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back to the Angolans, who in turn have pledged themselves to prevent Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization) guerrillas from infiltrating into Namibia from their Angolan bases. The asymmetry in all this is that South Africa appears to be under no clear reciprocal obligation to restrain Unita, and might not have the power to do so anyway.

The other unanswered question is whether the South Africans are at last serious about leaving Namibia. The audience showed not a flicker of interest in any of such matters. All that they wanted was practical advice about how to get their novellas and poems published. Many of them insisted on reading us their ghastly works in full. Some of them still correspond with me, giving the latest news of their creative writing, and the latest steps in the long road to publication.

Literary festivals and courses on creative writing are attended by non-writers who should consider some other occupation. Mark Twain put it crisply: "Write without pay until somebody offers pay. If nobody offers within three years the candidate may look upon this circumstance with the most implicit confidence as the sign that saving wood is what he was intended for."

There are notable and sociable exceptions. But I take it to be a general truth that proper authors are unclubbable. Literary and bookish societies are attended by publishers, publicists, and other non-writers who prop up the gray-train of literature. Your actual creative author is at home, pounding the typewriter in order to finish the next chapter and deliver the typescript on time, or at any rate not more than a year over deadline.

Michael Hornsby

David Watt

## What a way to pick a president

New York

The breakthrough of Senator Gary Hart in the Democratic primary elections is, frankly, a bit scary. I am not against Hart personally. In fact, whenever I have met or talked to him in the past, there has been nothing whatever about him to belie the impression, which anyone would get from seeing him on television, of a "pretty nice guy", reasonably intelligent, reasonably good-looking, reasonably liberal, reasonably (though not excessively) industrial.

He listens well, he seems open-minded and (unlike Governor Reagan when he campaigned for the Republican nomination) he has taken the trouble to travel quite widely over the years and acquire a special acquaintance with the main international issues. In short, though the press is digging away busily in the hope of discovering a guilty secret in his youthful past, he is a model citizen and a perfectly respectable senator for the state of Colorado.

The trouble is that there is no

reason to suppose that on any objective criterion he is more likely to make a good president of the United States than anyone else of his age, class and background.

As far as his rivals in the primaries go, he has less experience of government than Mondale, less experience of command than Glenn and less gift of the gab than Jackson. He might, of course, like President Truman (to use a most obvious, postwar example) turn out to be a winner in spite of all previous appearances of mediocrity. But isn't there something badly wrong with a system which forces the US to put its all on an outside chance?

Two answers to this question are normally offered over here. The first is that Mr Hart has not yet won the nomination, far less the presidency. The spring primaries and caucuses that he has carried constitute a tiny base of the voters and even if these victories create a momentum which gives him the candidacy of his party, he will be subjected to an examination of an altogether more searching and serious kind during the summer and autumn. If the voters believe he lacks the substance to pass this test, that will be the end of him. I find this argument all very well as far as it goes, but not particularly reassuring in the long run. If, at the beginning of November, the final choice is between a Hart discredited by the processes of US democracy and Reagan validated by them, the US constitution hardly stands vindicated.

The second argument is more serious. The absolutely indispensable task of the US president, it is said, is to hold the country together, to sum up its own aspirations in his person, to be accepted as the president. This symbolic function is what, till now, President Reagan has successfully fulfilled, whatever his other faults; and it is this function that Jimmy Carter, with his curiously different manner and his born-again naivety, signally failed to perform.

The apologists for the US electoral process, which is about images and communication, say that it has at least this to be said for it - it tends to eliminate men who do not have the necessary charisma. If you cannot communicate with the majority of the population - and it is obvious that Glenn cannot and doubtful whether Mondale can - then you will not get elected.

Philip Howard

## A book club for the unclubbable

A society of authors is as startling an oxymoron as a barbecue for vegetarians. Professional authors are solitary antisocial obsessives, almost by definition. They perform their function and come to life when sitting alone at their typewriters. When they meet other authors, if they cannot get out of the meeting, they talk, not about literature, certainly not about their new books, but about tax royalties and the villainies of publishers.

That is the difference between professional authors and literary groupies. I once sat on the brains trust at the Bracknell Literary Festival, an occasion every bit as silly as its name implies. We on the panel were all fluent with sage advice about contracts, horror stories about agents, and judicious lists of great novels every bit as famous and pernicious as those of the Book Marketing Council. The audience showed not a flicker of interest in any of such matters. All that they wanted was practical advice about how to get their novellas and poems published. Many of them insisted on reading us their ghastly works in full. Some of them still correspond with me, giving the latest news of their creative writing, and the latest steps in the long road to publication.

Literary festivals and courses on creative writing are attended by non-writers who should consider some other occupation. Mark Twain put it crisply: "Write without pay until somebody offers pay. If nobody offers within three years the candidate may look upon this circumstance with the most implicit confidence as the sign that saving wood is what he was intended for."

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## FEAR UNDER THE LAW

The scenes of illegal and disorderly picketing at Nottingham collieries are disgraceful and deeply disturbing. They are disgraceful because they show how the notion of trade union solidarity, in whose name so many inexcusable acts have recently been performed, is so easily cast aside when it becomes inconvenient to trade union leadership. The National Union of Mineworkers had always been held up as the true exemplar of that solidarity, yet here we have brutal and incontrovertible evidence of what little brotherly love is lost between the rival factions within it.

The scenes are disturbing because they show a readiness to pursue honest disagreements by violence in which intimidation and bullying take the place of civilised argument. They show that too many trade union leaders are still prepared to exploit this capacity for violence by using coercive methods in defiance of the law. The decision by Nottingham coalfields yesterday to walk out on a 24-hour strike is one further piece of evidence that Mr Scargill's bullies have got their way.

We hear a lot about picketing these days, lawful and unlawful. The point about picketing – any and every form of picketing – is that it is a form of intimidation. Intimidation, according to the dictionary, is to overawe with fear. So even though a picket is conforming to the guidelines set out for it under the Employment Act, it is still legal intimidation. There is no law against bullying as such, and the Labour minister in the 1970s who stumbled into

the phrase "lawful intimidation" was right on target. That is what picketing is: fear under the law.

Picketing has a long history. It was first permitted in the Molestation of Workmen Act 1859, in which trade unionists were given the rare privilege to accost people entering a workplace and apply suasion to them.

Ironically it was the NUM itself which in 1974 sought to introduce some discipline into its pickets so as to avoid the riotous scenes which occurred in the 1972 strike. Each area was advised to establish close liaison with the appropriate chief constable. "Pickets may communicate or obtain information 'peacefully' but may not 'interfere' with persons entering or leaving premises" it said. Pickets were advised that it was an offence to use insulting words or behaviour and that statements should always be factual and not directed in a derogatory manner at individuals. Not surprisingly, Mr Scargill was not at that time concerned with drawing up the rules.

The violence at the pits thus breaches the NUM's own rule-book as well as employment law and the criminal law. To the extent that the miners under Mr Scargill's manipulation abuse these principles they will tend to discredit the whole trade union movement, whose determination to be selective about which laws it will respect and which it will flout is sadly and repeatedly apparent. It is only when trade union officials and the TUC leadership as a whole fully recognize that there is not one law for them and one for the rest of us – only then – will they deserve to earn the respect of the rest of society, which is so widely and justifiably lacking now.

## AN EVERYDAY STORY OF ULSTER FOLK

An attempt is made on the life of a member of Parliament on the street in the centre of a provincial city in broad daylight. He has gunshot wounds in the neck, shoulder and arm. An outlawed political gang boasts of the attempt. Headlines in one day's newspapers. One lot of his constitutionally embodied opponents says it is a pity the gunmen did not make a proper job of it. Twenty-four hours pass and the bishops, normally quick to condemn terrorist outrages, remain silent. Ministers too and their spokesmen are lost for words. Ulster, as is frequently remarked, is not like anywhere else.

The silence in quarters normally fluent is understandable. A member of Parliament Mr Gerry Adams may be, but he is not like any other. He has no part in its proceedings, being a sworn enemy of the state of which it is the political embodiment. He is dedicated to the overthrow of its authority in Northern Ireland by armed intervention and is a

leading strategist of the violence by which the attempt is made. It would be difficult to comment from an official position on the attempt to kill him without sounding insincere or vacuously remote from the particulars. It would also be difficult to say anything beyond "Cool it" that did not in some way make matters worse. The trouble is that saying nothing is also one way of making matters worse. Official silence, when there is normally loud official disapproval, reaches some ears as condonation. Like so much about the province this is a no-win situation.

The attempt on Mr Adams's life was preceded by five murders within the fortnight, all of republican origin. Four of the victims were serving or former members of the indigenous security services; the fifth was mistaken for one. The Chief Constable had issued a warning that the Provisional IRA was deliberately provoking retaliation so as to enhance its assumed

## THREE INTO ONE WILL GO

Not the least enduring of Mr Denis Healey's dicta is that to reorganize the Ministry of Defence is like performing an appendix operation on a man who is carrying a grand piano. That is presumably why a succession of defence ministers have made a series of exploratory nicks without being so bold as to complete the appendectomy. Now the scalpel has been wielded by Mr Michael Heseltine.

He announced in the Commons this week that he was about to create a new central defence staff to advise ministers on policy, military operations and defence priorities. The Royal Navy, Army and RAF would be represented on it while their single service chiefs would be robbed of their own policy-making departments. They, the single service chiefs that is, would depend like everyone else for advice upon policy from the centre. The decision is wise and overdue and few surely will dissent from it.

It is now twenty one years since the single service departments were abolished to make way for a unified Ministry of Defence, with a Secretary of State in overall charge. Its shape resembled a pyramid and only the experience of the years since then has shown that this is not exactly the ideal design. It made for too much room near the top, which was filled by single-service hierarchies, duplicating work, competing for funds and confusing the issues with conflicting advice which ill served the central cause of national security.

There was, it is true, a Chief of

Defence Staff who presided over the Chiefs of Staff Committee and advised the Defence Secretary himself. But the CDS's authority over the competing interests of the three services depended at first upon his own personality. Mountbatten was strong and unequivocal in pulling his five-star rank over his four-star colleagues. But others have struggled to reach a consensus and to appear as the spokesman of the armed forces, not their chief.

Few have seriously argued the case for combining the three services in one uniform – as the Canadians did without conspicuous success. The most commonly perceived need has been for the services to come together at some point below the apex of the pyramid, leaving the key policy decisions to a central staff which could take a detached view in the national interest.

Throughout the 1960s a succession of committees grappled with the problems. The Headquarters Reorganization Committee of 1965 was followed by the Study Group on Defence Organization of 1966 and the Headquarters Organization Committee 1969. The second of these recommended the complete functionalization of the ministry which was too radical for most while the 1969 report went more modestly for the abolition of the single-service parliamentary under-secretaries. Even this proposal had to wait 12 years however before being pushed through by Mrs Thatcher.

Mr John Nott, as Defence Secretary, also took steps to

international commitments only if all their details are exactly in accordance with one's own interests, however chauvinistic, and to one's own advantage, however parochial, it is not only tiresome but quite anachronistic in the last years of the twentieth century.

That French military opinion accepts the need for proper interpretation into Nato is proved by the existing degree of unpublicized co-operation.

It would be to everyone's advantage if the unacceptability of French special pleading were forced into the open, thereby revealing its grotesque irrelevance to the defence of the West.

Yours truly,

GUY M. BRATT,  
2, Orchid Hill,  
Gerrards Cross,  
Buckinghamshire,  
March 8.

## Out of the mouths of children

From Miss Jill D. Goulding

Sir, How short-sighted can the Chancellor of the Exchequer be?

At a time when more children do not return home to a lunch and many areas are considering stopping school meals, he has put value-added tax on "takeaway" foods.

Increasing numbers of children buy such food at lunchtime and, for many, it is their only hot meal of the day. For parents with two or three children this means the virtual loss of any gain they might have expected from the new Revenue.

For children who pay for their meals out of their own evening and weekend earnings, presumably it may mean one lunch less a week.

Yours faithfully,  
JILL GOULDING,  
Halsted Chambers,  
23 North Street,  
Chichester, West Sussex.  
March 14.

From Mr Edward Wake-Walker

Sir, At precisely what temperature does takeaway food become VATable? And will only mild mustard be exempt in my beef sandwiches?

Yours faithfully,  
E. C. WAKE-WALKER,  
18 Crookton Road, SW17.  
March 14.

From Mr Patrick Foley-Brickley

Sir, The Chancellor has abolished life-assurance premium relief with the intention of moving investment into industry away from the large institutions into the hands of the individual investors.

Just how many shares does he think that the average man saving £1.5 per week is going to buy?

Yours sincerely,  
PATRICK FOLEY-BRICKLEY,  
Four Gables,  
Abbots Drive,  
Wentworth, Surrey.  
March 13.

From Mr Don Boyd

Sir, The article which appeared in today's early edition (March 15) concerning film industry reaction to the Budget completely misrepresented my views expressed to your Arts Correspondent.

The Chancellor's alterations of the rules concerning capital allowances, combined with the reduction in rates of corporation tax over the next two years, will have a disastrous impact on the financing of British films, especially independently produced films.

The new measures announced in the Budget on Tuesday are symptomatic of this Government's extraordinary disregard for the future of British cinema at a time when, for the third year in succession, British films and performers are gathering critical and financial rewards all over the world – as the proportion of Oscar nominations for this year demonstrates.

Yours faithfully,  
DON BOYD,  
Boyds Co. Film Productions Ltd,  
9 Great Newport Street, WC2.  
March 15.

## A place in space

From Mr J. H. Logan

Sir, Your leader article ("Buying space . . .", March 6) suggests that the loss of . . . two communications satellites worth £130m . . . would have been more disconcerting without the knowledge that alternative methods of launching were available".

This sentence contains an inference, in common with most mass media coverage during and after the mission, that the shuttle which carried the satellites into orbit was somehow to blame.

It has been made clear by NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) and has even been acknowledged by one company – Western Union, whose satellite was lost – that the fault lay not in the launch vehicle but in the satellites' own internal rocket control system, designed to take them from the relatively low shuttle orbit to the much higher geosynchronous orbit.

Presumably, therefore, these satellites might have failed equally spectacularly had they been boosted spaceward by an Ariane rocket. I would imagine that the people running the European Space Agency must have breathed a tremendous sigh of relief that they had not been unsuccessful in winning the launch contract.

Had Ariane been chosen to do the job the repercussions might have been many times more "disconcerting" for this relative newcomer, although it, too, would have been equally blameless.

Yours faithfully,  
J. H. LOGAN,  
50 Kensington Road,  
Barnsley,  
South Yorkshire.  
March 7.

## Action by Israel

From Mr Sydney Cowan

Sir, Your leading article, "Poison spreading from Iraq" (March 12), prompts me to comment that in view of the manufacture and use of ghastly chemical weapons by Iraq in the Gulf war, who is to say that Israel was wrong in destroying their nuclear plant outside Baghdad, where undoubtedly nuclear weapons would by now have been manufactured?

Having demonstrated their total disregard for the Geneva Convention on chemical warfare to which they were signatory, can we be sure that Iraq would not be using nuclear weapons had Israel not taken the action that she did, and for which she was, quite wrongly, universally condemned?

Yours faithfully,  
SYDNEY COWAN,  
The Colonades,  
82 Bishop's Bridge Road,  
Bayswater, W2.  
March 12.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Rewards of onshore oil exploration

From Mr N. O. Essex

Sir, The onshore search for oil and gas is impinging on more and more lives and will continue to do so as Britain tries to replenish its North Sea supplies.

When a licence-holder makes a drilling application to the planning authorities some local residents, fearful of the unknown, are resistant to any disturbance of the status quo. Others recognise the national interest in exploiting our resources and welcome, or at least feel they ought to, the licence-holder's efforts.

Most people would like to encourage local wealth creation, but the risk/reward equation can appear to be negative. If the local community decides to accept the new industry all of the wealth it creates is likely to end up with the Government, through the tax system, or with the licence-holder.

In the United States mineral rights are held by the landowner, who extracts a healthy royalty from the oil companies. In this country mineral rights are held by the Crown, which is paid a royalty by the oil companies equal to one eighth of the value of all sales. But the neighbourhood from which the

oil or gas is taken receives not a penny of this directly.

The public acceptance of onshore drilling would be enhanced if the Crown's royalty benefits were seen to be more fairly distributed to each tier of local government involved. For example, of the 12½ per cent royalty perhaps ½ per cent might go to the local parish council, 1 or 2 per cent to the local district council and 4 or 5 per cent to the local county council with the remainder accruing to the state.

A wealth-sharing arrangement of this nature would not only be more equitable but would also bring a measure of local support for onshore exploration that is not encouraged under existing arrangements.

The Department of Energy is in the process of introducing changes to onshore licensing arrangements. It could be timely to include legislation providing for the allocation of the Crown's oil and gas royalties to each affected tier of local government.

Yours faithfully,  
N. O. ESSEX,  
Combe Ridge,  
Pook Hill,  
Chiddesfold,  
Surrey.  
March 13.

### Uneven effect of university cuts

From Professor R. E. D. Bishop and Mr D. Neave

Sir, Your leader, "At the apex" (March 12), is timely. It sometimes seems to those of us closely concerned with the running of universities that we have no defenders in the world outside. A national debate about the future of higher education must involve the many groups in the community who are affected by it. Education is much too serious a thing to be left to done.

The cuts which were imposed in 1981 bore unevenly across the universities. There is nothing wrong with discriminatory funding: equality of treatment would simply have a debilitating effect. But the criteria upon which discrimination is based

are critical. In 1981 that group of universities which is especially concerned with the application of new knowledge and the production of graduates whose studies fit them particularly for employment in industry and commerce was hardest hit. The technological universities believe that they occupy an important place on the university scene, but they are a relatively small part of it. Because they are concerned with application and with technological and scientific innovation they are sometimes viewed with suspicion by traditionals.

It is all too easy in such circumstances to believe that the experience of 1981 may be repeated: 1981 represented merely the culmination of years of under-funding of the technological universities.

One of the great achievements of the Robbins era was the creation of a wide diversity of universities. That diversity could be threatened. Industry continually affirms its support of the technological universities by employing their graduates, placing annually millions of pounds' worth of research contracts with them, participating in joint research and development projects and so on.

We greatly that support and we hope that, if necessary, industry will say publicly what it now says to us privately.

Yours faithfully,  
R. E. D. BISHOP (Vice-Chancellor & Principal),  
DAVID NEAVE (Secretary General & Registrar),  
Brunel University,  
Uxbridge, Middlesex.  
March 13.

### The Labour years

From Dr John Campbell

Sir, It is a pity that Woodrow Wyatt should use the opportunity of a *Times* review of Kenneth Morgan's scholarly and dispassionate *Labour in Power* (March 8) merely to reopen the old Bevan-Gaitskell row by blaming everything that went wrong on the "personal verity" of Aneurin Bevan. After 30 years the subject is just beginning to be susceptible to more balanced judgment. The papers now open and used for the first time by Dr Morgan tell a more complex tale than Sir Woodrow's perfervid partisanship can assimilate.

They show that Bevan not only had the better of the argument over rearmament in 1950-51, but also that he had been deploying his proposed provisions for remarriage consistently in Cabinet for many months before his resignation. His February 1951 speech defending the arms programme was an act of loyalty, of collective responsibility, for which he has rarely been given credit. Intent, like Sir Woodrow, on quoting the last paragraph against him, his critics omit to notice that the argument of the speech as a whole was consistent with his repeated warnings and his resignation two months later.

This is not to say that Bevan was right to push his disagreement to the point of resignation – least of all, perhaps, on the issue of health service charges – nor that personal frustration played no part in his doing so.

But Bevan was by no means alone in thinking that Gaitskell's elevation to the key domestic job in the Government was too rapid for his own or the party's good. At the same time the Exchequer was not a job he was more upset, quite justifiably, by Morrison's appointment to the Foreign Office.

Then again, in the resignation crisis itself, there was more than one difficult personality involved. Of course Bevan was impulsive, but Gaitskell was stubborn; Attlee was weak and Morrison, depuniting at the critical Cabinet in Attlee's absence, made little effort to restrain his longstanding antipathy to Bevan in the interest of preserving unity.

Not one of them was blameless. Therein lies the tragedy of an episode which Sir Woodrow's one-sided simplification utterly misrepresents.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN CAMPBELL,  
35 Ladbroke Square, W11.

### Waters of time

From Dr P. A. Sabine

Sir, The occurrence of the fluid inclusions such as those recently reported ("Drop of time", March 6) may be even more common than Mr Massey (March 10) reminds us. They are also of considerable scientific and potential economic importance.

The descriptions by Evelyn probably refer to "enhydros", namely hollow nodules or geodes of chalcedony containing water. They are of worldwide occurrence as steam cavities, commonly several inches across, in lavas from which they weather out as pebbles.

On a very much smaller scale are inclusions in minerals, to which the report from central Asia may well refer. These are minute cavities, commonly only twenty thousandths of a millimetre across, which occur in vast numbers in most minerals. They can only be seen by micro-

scopic study, but very exceptionally may reach a centimetre or so in size, particularly in fluor spar and quartz. They represent the fluid in which the mineral was crystallising and the fluid itself may include bubbles and crystals. Chemical, including isotopic, studies of these fascinating inclusions offer a direct approach to the study of mineralising fluids and hence the occurrences



## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
March 15: His Excellency Mr O. M. Gibbs was received in audience by The Queen this morning at his appointment as High Commissioner for Grenada in London.

Mrs Gibbs had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

His Excellency Sir Don Jesus Almeida was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letter of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letter of Credence.

His Excellency Sir Edward and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Equatorial Guinea to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Member of the Embassy, who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty: Sir Mariano Ebang (Attache), Sir Julian Bullard (Deputy to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr Justice Kennedy had the honour of being received by The Queen on his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Justice when Her Majesty received on him the honour of Knighthood.

Major Derek Allinson had the honour of being received by The Queen and delivered up his Stick of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Standard Bearer, Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.

Major the Marquess of Donegall had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as

Standard Bearer, Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, and received from The Queen his Stick of Office.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by the Countess of Airlie, Sir William Heseltine and Major Hugh Lindsay, left Euston Station on the Royal Train this evening for Clwyd.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, attended Receptions at St James's Palace today for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

His Royal Highness chaired a meeting of The Award Scheme Trustees at Buckingham Palace.

The Prince of Wales, Mr Mark Phillips, accompanied by Captain Mark Phillips, this afternoon presented the Ritz Charity Trophy to the leading jockey at the Cheltenham three-day meeting.

His Royal Highness and Captain Mark Phillips were received on the arrival of the Chairman of Cheltenham Racecourse (Captain H. M. Gosling).

By command of The Queen, the Lord Somerleyton (Lord in Waiting) called upon the Governor-General of Canada and Mrs Schreyer this morning at the Residence of the High Commissioner for Canada and, on behalf of Her Majesty, welcomed Their Excellencies on their arrival in the Wellington Library Exhibition in Wellington, Somerset, on April 27.

The family of the late Hon Sir Hugh Fraser, MP, are deeply grateful for the numerous messages and letters of sympathy which they have received and look forward to answering them personally in time.

A thanksgiving service to celebrate the golden jubilee of the British Diabetic Association will be held in Westminster today at 3.30 pm.

The Royal Highnesses visited the factory of Westall Richardson Ltd, Upper Allen Street.

Don F. de Suárez Machado and Miss T. A. Heath

The marriage will take place in Tenerife on April 22 between Felipe, second son of Dr and Mrs Joaquin de Suárez, of Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, and Tracy Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. G. A. Heath, of La Orotava, Tenerife, Canary Islands.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. Diefenbach, USAF, and Miss P. L. Epstein

The engagement is announced between Brent, son of Mrs Joanna Diefenbach and the late Mr W. F. Diefenbach, of West Virginia, United States, and Patricia Louise, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Brooks of Eltham, Kent, and Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

Mr H. B. Bagnall and Miss U. M. W. Parish

The engagement is announced between Harvey, elder twin son of Mr and Mrs G. B. Bagnall, of Upney Cottage, Eversley, Lyngton, Hampshire, and Ursula, younger daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Godfrey Woodbine Parish, of South Devon.

Mr D. A. Colvin and Miss S. A. McBride

The engagement is announced at Oberndorf, Austria, between David Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Colvin of Fins Hill, Herstall, Wirral, and Sally Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. K. J. McBride, of Overstrand, Hoylake, Wirral.

Mr M. P. Cossens and Miss C. M. Andrews

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Colonel and Mrs P. G. L. Cossens, of Isfield, Sussex, and Claire, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. G. D. Andrews, of Cawston, near Rugby, Warwickshire.

Mr S. R. Damantrether and Miss V. M. D. R. Harris

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Damantrether, of London SW3, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Harris, of Holt, Norfolk.

Mr N. C. Hawker and Miss C. A. Geddes

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs C. W. Hawker, and Catherine, daughter of Mr Paul Geddes and the late Mrs Moly Geddes.

Rev G. M. St J. Heare and Miss C. R. Fletcher

The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs M. M. Heare, of London, Greater London, Colindale, Essex, and Carey, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Emerson Fletcher, Jr, of Champaign, Illinois, United States. The marriage will take place in North Carolina during May.

Mr W. M. Longines and Miss H. L. Longines

The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of the late Mrs. D. H. Doherty, of Standon, Hertfordshire, and Wing Commander M. Doherty, of Petersfield, Hampshire, and Helen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Brooks of Eltham, Kent, and Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

Mr R. J. Ratcliffe and Miss H. E. Ratcliffe

The engagement is announced between Robbie, second son of Mr and Mrs Robert Ratcliffe, of St. Martin's, Guernsey, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Ratcliffe, of St. Martin's, Jersey, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ratcliffe, of St. Martin's, Jersey.

Mr R. J. Ratcliffe and Miss N. S. Harrison

The engagement is announced between Christopher John, son of the late Mr D. H. Ratcliffe and of Mrs McVea Pexton of Purley, Surrey, and Rosalind Charlotte, eldest daughter of Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, and Mrs Gray of Scalby, Scarborough.

Mr R. J. Ratcliffe and Miss H. E. Ratcliffe

The engagement is announced between Robert John, younger son of Dr and Mrs F. W. Ratcliffe, of Cambridge and Duxley, Chelmsford, and Helen Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Kuzmar, of Oxford.

Mr R. J. Ratcliffe and Miss N. S. Harrison

The engagement is announced between Leo, son of Mr and Mrs Henry Scheiner, of Hendon, London, NW4, and Nicole Sandra, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Seymour W. Harrison of Hampstead, London, NW3.

Mr D. H. Shaw Stewart and Miss L. M. C. Sorby

The engagement is announced between Timothy, only son of Mr and Mrs S. W. Gilbert, of Beckenham, Kent, and Joanna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. C. Goddard, of Caversham, Reading, Berkshire.

Mr R. A. Stewart and Miss H. J. Addison

The engagement is announced between Ian, younger son of Mr and Mrs D. A. Stewart, of Eaton Terrace, SW1, and Helen, only daughter of the late Mr Justice Addison and Mrs Addison, of Hong Kong.

Mr J. P. Wansbrough and Señorita I. Echevarría y Aburto

The engagement is announced between James, second son of Mr P. Wansbrough of Seend, Wiltshire, and of Mrs M. D. Wansbrough, of Chelsea, London, and Isabel, elder daughter of Don José-Maria Echevarría y Arteche and Doña María Aburto y Laiseca, of Madrid, Spain.

Rev A. D. G. Wright and Miss J. Savage

The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. J. V. Wright, of Oxford, and Julia, daughter of Mrs R. Savage, of Harrogate, and the late Rev D. Savage.

Marriages

Mr C. N. Holtermann, Jr, and Miss S. Cooper

The marriage took place in Oslo on February 24 between Mr Christian Holtermann, son of Mrs Frida Holtermann, of Oslo, and Miss C. N. Holtermann, of Oslo, and Miss Sheridan Cooper, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Henry Cooper, of Clare, Suffolk.

Meetings

Royal Overseas League  
Mr Leslie Thomas was the guest speaker at a meeting of the National Book League held at Overseas House, St James's yesterday.

### Forthcoming marriages

The Hon J. V. Matthews and Mrs H. C. Cooke

The engagement is announced between Ian Matthews, only son of Lord and Lady Matthews of Soudley, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Francis Matthews of Frampton, Surrey.

Mr G. O. S. Andrews and Miss H. E. Brooks

The engagement is announced between Giles, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. O. S. Andrews, of Sandringham, Norfolk, and Helen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Brooks of Eltham, Kent, and Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

Mr H. Bagnall and Miss U. M. W. Parish

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The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Damantrether, of London SW3, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Harris, of Holt, Norfolk.

Afterwards The Prince and Princess of Wales visited St Luke's Hospice, Epsom.

Their Royal Highnesses subsequently attended a Reception given by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield (Councillor Dr P. Jones) at the Town Hall.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Mr David Roycroft, this evening attended a performance of Tosca given by the South Yorkshire Opera at the Crucible Theatre.

KENSINGTON PALACE  
March 13: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, London Playing Fields Society, today received Mr J. G. Dunn, on relinquishing the Chairmanship and Mr P. Nathan on assuming the appointment.

YORK HOUSE  
ST JAMES'S PALACE  
March 15: The Duke of Kent today attended the Annual General Meeting of The Fellowship of Engineering at The Royal Society of Arts, London, WC1.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Mr Mark Phillips, accompanied by Captain Mark Phillips, this afternoon presented the Ritz Charity Trophy to the leading jockey at the Cheltenham three-day meeting.

His Royal Highness chaired a meeting of The Award Scheme Trustees at Buckingham Palace.

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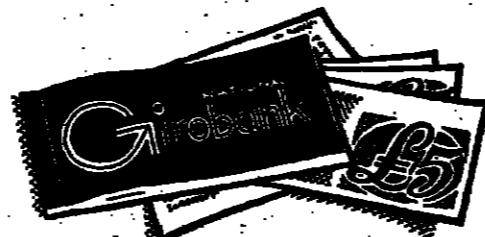
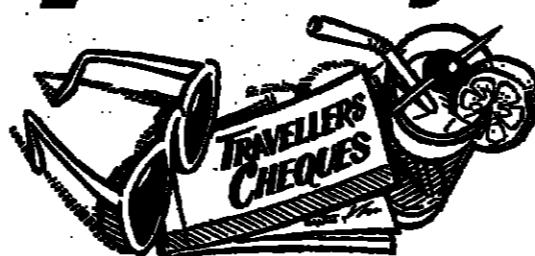
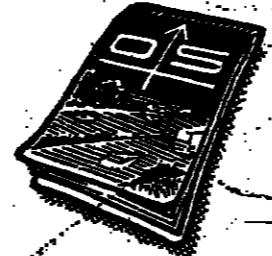
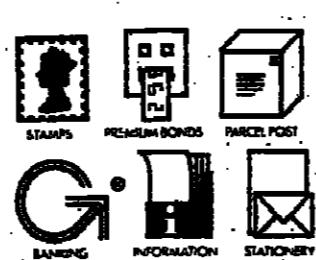
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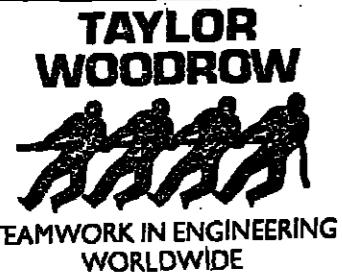
ROOKS

VILCONON

FEN DALE

AN BURRELL

**This is the place in your local high street****For savings and banking it's hard to beat****This is the place for a flutter with Ernie****Or travellers' cheques for your holiday journey****This is the place to find Postman Pat****Lost for a map? Here's where they're at****This is the place for stamps in a book****And our budget stamps are worth more than a look****This is the place with services new  
It's your post office - there's more in it for you****Get more out of your post office**



# New peak for equities

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 12. Dealings End March 23. 5 Contango Day, March 26. Settlement Day, April 2.  
5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

| FT - ACTUARIES INDICES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|------------------|
| INDUSTRIAL GROUP       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 515.09 (511.02)  |
| 500 SHARE INDEX        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 563.17 (556.00)  |
| *EARNINGS YIELD        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 9.31% (9.38%)    |
| DIVIDEND YIELD         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4.08% (4.14%)    |
| P.E. RATIO (NET)       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 13.23 (13.16)    |
| ALL SHARE INDEX        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 518.74 (513.74)  |
| DIVIDEND YIELD         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4.28% (4.32%)    |
| *estimated             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (previous close) |

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY  
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Interest rate tug of war  
across the Atlantic

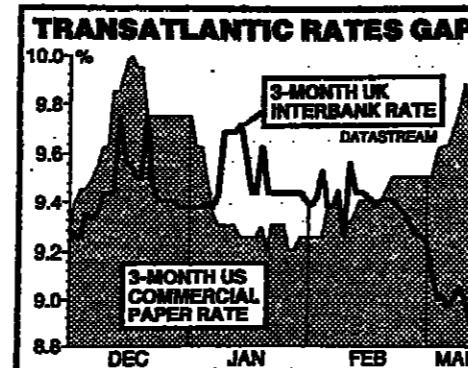
Interest rates on the other side of the Atlantic have been firming for several weeks and the prospect of United States prime rates going up by 0.5 per cent to 11.5 per cent is now real. The key Federal funds rate yesterday moved into double figures. If prime rates do move, it will be the first shift since August last year. It is worth saying that under the old Citibank rates formula scrapped three years ago, which comprised a three week average of three-month Certificates of Deposit, plus 150 basic points, prime rates would now be 11 1/4 per cent.

Most United States bankers are probably too frightened of the political fallout from a vote-sensitive President Reagan to make the first move, so the rise could come later rather than sooner. Meanwhile, the real economy is signalling even more rapid growth. The February industrial production figures show an upturn of 1.2 per cent, with all sectors of the index contributing to the upturn. It all looks very strong. Broker loan rates are edging up as well.

Budget euphoria and base rate cuts in Britain have helped to distract attention from these pressures on US interest rates. But as the chart demonstrates (and the Chancellor mentioned in his Budget speech) the gap between British and US interest rates is now unusually wide. This need not matter unless it leads to pressure on sterling. Sterling's recent performance while base rates were coming down has not been entirely reassuring, although yesterday it was looking reasonably steady. But if the differential between US and British rates continues to widen, there will come a point when the pound comes under pressure. This consideration limits the potential for yet lower base rates and the possibility of a rise later in the year cannot be ruled out.

Our own detailed money supply figures for the February banking month also helped to disappoint the gilt market yesterday. True, the final £M3 figure showed a dip, but this owed much to quirks in the banks' net non-deposit liabilities column. The bigger figures were a trifl unearthing. Bank lending was back over £1 billion, central government borrowing was around £2 billion, seasonably adjusted, while debt sales were a healthy £1.3 billion.

In this light, the authorities would be foolish, some say, to curb the funding programme. The market is looking forward to 3.30 this afternoon to discover whether the authorities, post-Budget, can produce a tap stock which will differ either in coupon or maturity from its pre-Budget predecessors. A sharply lower coupon would be in line with the overall aim of reducing the public sector's interest rate



bill, but might jolt the exchange rate if it signalled still more interest rate cuts on the way. Funding into the next century might jeopardise the revival of the industrial debenture market the Chancellor went out of his way on Tuesday to foster. "Taplets" would be seen as purely pusillanimous.

The market has another uncertainty to contend with, in the form of the Chancellor's latest measure for narrow money. The problem is that the weekly bank returns, which the Bank of England has to publish by law, contain two of the major components of the new measure M0. The Bank is trying to confuse the issue by averaging out the highly erratic week to week variations in the money banks hold at the Bank of England and applying a seasonal adjustment before reaching the monthly figure for M0. That is unlikely to stop the markets from making its own guesses - on the basis of incomplete information.

A comeback for fringe banks?

Sharp City minds were busy yesterday identifying tax loss areas which might appeal to clearing banks threatened by the Chancellor's backdoor on their profits. Attention focussed on - yes, you've guessed it - the secondary banks, whose property lending splurge in the early 1970's nearly wrecked the British banking system, and led to the protracted Bank of England-led rescue operation known as the "lifeboat". Those pulled from the water that still exist have tax losses which could prove a boon to the clearers, assuming such losses can be grouped for corporation tax purposes. First National Finance Corporation, standing at 73p a share with some £90m of tax losses listed in the latest report and accounts, is a name to conjure with. Would it appeal to the clearers? All four are listed as FNFC's bankers. Come back, Pat Matthews, all might "yet be forgiven".

The new man to head CSI

The Council for the Securities Industry is anxious to dispel the myth that it represents the fifth wheel on a City coach careering downhill toward radical change. But it does have a major problem: at present it does not have a job. The CSI was set up in 1978, sponsored by the Bank of England and Mr Edward Dell, essentially to act as a buffer between the City and the then Labour government.

When the Government changed, the CSI went to sleep.

One of its rare contributions to City affairs was drawing up a list of rules to govern substantial acquisitions of share stakes to prevent concert party dawn raids of the kind made by Mr Harry Oppenheimer on Consolidated Gold Fields. In the event the rules were too many, too complicated and too late.

Professor Laurence "Jim" Gower, in his review of investor protection, has offered the CSI a second chance. It is clutching at it with both hands. The Council has just completed its response to Gower and will tell the Department of Trade and Industry that it is prepared to take on the role of

NEWS IN BRIEF

Steel output up 4.4%

British steel output last month rose to its highest weekly average for nearly two years but the increased demand has done little to stem the £2.5m weekly losses of the British Steel Corporation.

Figures released today by the BSC and the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, show that average weekly production of 327,300 tonnes in February was 4.4 per cent greater than a year earlier.

• Alexander & Alexander Services, the insurance group, announced in New York yesterday that it would register "a significant operating loss" for the last quarter of 1983, following \$21m profits for the first nine months.

• Chelsea Football Club yesterday agreed "mutually acceptable terms" for ending its High Court action to prevent a takeover of S. B. Property, which own the club's ground at Stamford Bridge. The terms were not disclosed.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
am \$394.15 pm \$394.50  
do 5395.50 5395.50 (£269.75 -  
270.25)  
New York (latest): \$396  
Krueger (per ounce):  
\$407 - \$408.50 (£277 - 278)  
Sovereigns (new):  
\$39.94 (£63.50 - 64.25)  
Excludes VAT

Receivers in at Mellins

By Our City Editor

The first significant crack has appeared in the hitherto impregnable "magic circle" of Turkish-related companies on the stock market. Mellins, the women's and children's clothes maker headed by Mr Touker Suleyman, yesterday agreed to allow Barclays Bank to appoint receivers and a manager.

The joint receivers are Mr Robert Ellis and Ms John Richard of Touche Ross, the accountancy firm. The news

immediately had a ripple effect on the shares of the most prominent "Turkish" company, Polly Peck, which fell 5p to 309p.

At that stage, Mellins said that talks were taking place over a possible refinancing of the company. Mr Suleyman, who has a 25 per cent stake in the company, said later that he wanted a £500,000 injection in return for 30 per cent of the enlarged capital.

US investors could lose ACT relief

Call for unitary tax retaliation

By Michael Prest

The Unitary Tax Campaign is seizing the opportunity offered by the Budget to press for the inclusion in the forthcoming Finance Bill of a clause which would empower the Government to withdraw the tax on the percentage of local operations represented by the worldwide turnover, profits, assets and payroll of which the business is a part. At the moment, 12 American states apply unitary taxation to foreign companies.

Opponents to unitary taxation have been further encouraged by the support from backbench Members of Parliament.

Bumper company results lift shares to record 875.6

By Our City Staff

The stock market surged to a record 875.6 on the FT index in the wake of a string of company results which vividly serve to underline the assertion on Tuesday by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, that Britain is experiencing "an economic recovery whose underlying strength is now beyond dispute".

Ranged from engineering to the consumer sector and taking in financial services too, the figures show a remarkable consistent picture of corporate revival in the latter half of 1983, accompanied by firm predictions that the trend has continued strongly into this year.

TI Group, the Russell Hobbs, Asco, Creda and New World engineering concern, yesterday unveiled a sparkling set of profits figures for 1983. At £235m to £400m. With earnings approaching 50p. On that basis, the dividend could rise to as much as 20p.

Meanwhile, Brooke Bond

Group, which includes PG Tips, Teabags, and Oxo among its brand names, is poised to turn in bumper profits for the interim stage.

In the financial sector, Sedgwick

Group, the insurance and

reinsurance broking group,

now expects up to £70m against

£48.2m for the year. The

grocery and plantation com-

pany has been struggling for

seven years to better the £49m it

made in 1977.

The big improvement stems

from much higher raw tea

prices, which doubled Brooke

Bond's estate profits in the first

half to more than £12m. A

similar performance is likely

in the second half.

Mallinson-Denby, the timber

merchant acquired three years

ago, is also likely to make a

post-interest profit for the first

time by the end of this year. It

accounts for £6m of the £7.2m

interest charge shown at the

interim stage.

Some City analysts, notably

Mr Philip Aytoun of De Zoete &

Bevan, feel that TI is capable of

generating pre-tax profits during

the coming year. Both increased

earnings are likely to be

reflected in the dividend.

Meanwhile, the consumer boom,

which was fuelled further in

the Budget, is coming through

strongly in food manufacturing

profits.

On sales up from £1.2 billion

to £1.4 billion, the pre-tax profit

of United Biscuits, Britain's

biggest manufacturer, rose from

£26.4m to £28.2m, with

shareholders receiving a 10 per cent

raise in the dividend.

Meanwhile, Brooke Bond

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Group, which includes PG Tips,

## TDG in 1983

|                     | 1983   | 1982  | %      |
|---------------------|--------|-------|--------|
|                     | £m     | £m    | Change |
| Turnover            | 367.7  | 347.8 | +5.7   |
| Profit before tax   | 21.0   | 18.3  | +14.5  |
| Earnings per share  | 10.12p | 7.87p | +28.6  |
| Dividends per share | 5.0p   | 4.45p | +12.4  |

\* Rise in profits of 14.5% achieved despite a drop of more than £2 million in contribution by reinforcement businesses.

\* Activity of general haulage fleets improved. Contract hire and specialised haulage very successful.

\* Growth in number of warehouses linked to major distribution contracts.

\* Most cold stores filled to capacity during the year.

\* Plant hire profits increased.

\* Dutch, French and U.S. transport companies increased profits.

\* Difficult year for the Australian companies.

\* Despite a slow start 1984 is likely to be an improvement on 1983.

Full report and accounts available after 4 April 1984 from the Secretary, Transport Development Group PLC, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SR.

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BTR plc, Silvertown House, Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PL. 01-834 3848.

Why lower pay could depress the labour market

## Government arguments for pricing-into-jobs 'spurious'

One of the main components of government economic thinking at present is that it is necessary for workers to reduce their wages to 'price themselves into work'. It justifies a series of measures attacking wage levels.

These include direct attacks on wage councils and similar bodies, the operation of schemes like the Young Workers' Scheme, which have as their specific aims the depression of wages and the broader economic and legal attacks on employment and on the trade unions.

Secondly, it justifies the Government in failing to take any direct steps to deal with unemployment. The high level of wages provides a ready scapegoat.

To justify its strategy, the Government needs to show that wage cuts will price workers into jobs, that it is the only method available for creating jobs and that the steps taken by the Government are sufficient to achieve the scale of wage cuts needed to create jobs.

In fact, it has been supremely unsuccessful. In spite of a doubling of unemployment and a dismantling of much of the legal support for the low paid, real wages have accelerated since 1980. The Government merely goes on saying that wage cuts will create jobs, with no idea of the mechanisms that will bring about the changes they seek.

The assertion that workers can price themselves into jobs is really made up of three elements:

- There would be more work if wages were lower.
- There would be more work in Britain if British wages fell relative to those in other countries.
- One group of workers can take jobs from another group if it lowers its wage.

The apparent simplicity of the argument lies in the fact that the second element — that relative costs do affect the balance of trade and employment between countries — does contain some truth. But these costs are affected not just by wages but by relative productivity and by the exchange rate. Over the past five years Britain's relative production costs have fluctuated by 50 per cent. Yet the growth rate of real wages has not varied by more than 5 per cent. The exchange rate and changes in government tax and price policy have been the dominant factors.

One of the severest blows to our competitiveness was the notorious 'tax switch' of the 1979 Budget (when the tax burden was switched from direct to indirect tax). That added 4 per cent to the prices and was the major-factor in the wage explosion of 1979-80.

Mr Henry Neuburger, economic adviser to Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, challenges the Government's assumption that workers must accept lower wages to 'price themselves into jobs', repeated by the Chancellor in his Budget speech. He argues that lower wages would destroy jobs rather than create them by depressing demand in the economy; that pay is only one influence on Britain's international competitiveness, and hence on employment; and that the results of the Equal Pay Act, which raised women's earnings relative to men's, disprove the Government's case.

comparing the market in workers and bananas. The objection to this analogy is not that it offends human dignity. It is that unlike the price of bananas, the price of labour also represents the bulk of most people's incomes.

Any change in wages, therefore, has an effect both directly in the market for labour and in the market for goods produced by that labour. While the relative cheapness of workers may cause employers to want more of them, this is likely to be more than offset by the fact that the demand for their products will have fallen, so they will need fewer workers. The traditional economic analysis of markets is, therefore, of no use.

A system of analysis like that developed by Keynes, which admits simultaneously of both factors, is more relevant. This would lead to the conclusion that an increase in wages worldwide, while it might have inflationary consequences, would also tend to increase rather than decrease employment.

Many of the same arguments also apply to the belief that workers will lose jobs to other workers if their own wages rise. In addition to the effect on income, it is likely that there will be a virtuous circle where increased wages give rise to greater esteem, improved training, application of more equipment, more productive workers and access to a better and wider range of jobs.

This is well illustrated by the 1969 Equal Pay Act. Most pundits predicted that the relative improvement in women's pay would either not happen, or would result in women being replaced by men. In the event, the Act resulted in the only significant improvement in the relative pay of women since the Second World War.

Women did not lose jobs. There was no pause in the steady increase in the share of women in employment.

A more detailed study\* of the effects showed that there was no tendency for women's employment to rise more slowly in those industries where the Equal Pay Act had most impact.

Both theory and evidence are, therefore, against all but a very small fraction of the 'pricing into jobs' thesis. It provides no basis for the present Government's policy which is still destroying jobs on a vast scale, and no justification for the attribution of our present troubles to wages.

The cost of such a strategy in terms of poverty, lost production and personal insecurity is very high.

\*Henry Neuburger: *Unemployment - Are wages to Blame?* Low Pay Unit, March 1984.



Henry Neuburger: "quicker ways of improving competitiveness"

By that sort of measure, the Government can in principle influence wage levels in either direction. But it cannot do so to any great extent using the kind of measures it is currently using. Wages have been rising at an accelerating rate relative to prices since 1980, in spite of

course, do no more than move jobs from one country to another.

But, while the international competitiveness argument has some validity, even if limited in practice, the other arguments are wholly spurious.

The argument that the total

'A fall in incomes means a fall in demand for consumer products'

intensified government efforts to prevent them doing so.

The manipulation of the exchange rate and direct action on the price level are quicker and more effective ways of improving competitiveness.

Any such improvements will, of

number of workers could be increased if they all accepted lower wages based on a false analogy with markets in other commodities.

Samuel Brittan wrote an article in the *Financial Times* about a year ago, for example:

The cost of such a strategy in terms of poverty, lost production and personal insecurity is very high.

\*Henry Neuburger: *Unemployment - Are wages to Blame?* Low Pay Unit, March 1984.

### APPOINTMENTS

## Standard Chartered names London chief

Standard Chartered Bank: Mr A. Wren, formerly chief executive of Standard Chartered Bank in Zimbabwe, has been appointed general manager of the bank in London. He will assume regional responsibilities for Africa (excluding South Africa). Mr D. A. Stewart, and Mr J. S. Davidson, general managers with specific responsibilities for Africa, will be leaving their present posts. Mr Stewart will be retiring. Mr Davidson will take up a senior post in the general management of Standard Bank of South Africa. Mr John Park has been appointed director of information for Standard Chartered Bank.

Woodcote publications: Mr George Rutherford has been made director.

Maxicrop International: Dr David Bellamy has joined the board of directors.

Delta Group: Mr R. H. Ludwick and Mr D. R. Morris, managing directors of Cables and Switchgear and Accessories Divisions respectively have been elected to the board with effect from April 12.

Hitech Consulting Group (UK): Mr Dermot O'S. Hoare has been made director. Mr Robert Guillamot is chairman and Mr Jerry W. Pollack executive director.

The Northern Trust Company: Mr Jeffrey F. Ruzicka, senior vice-president and general manager of the London branch, has been named head of the bank's international department. Mr Ruzicka will be replaced in London by Mr Stephen M. Wolfe, vice-president and former head of the Asian/Pacific Division, in July.

Reed Publishing: Mr Ian Thomas, chief executive of Reed Telepublishing, will join the board of the parent group on April 1. Mr Ted Piper, management services director, Business Press International, will join the Reed Telepublishing board.

## Standard Chartered Bank

announces that on and after 15 March 1984 its Base Rate for lending is being decreased from

**9 to 8½% p.a.**

The interest rate payable on deposit accounts subject to seven days notice of withdrawal will be decreased from 5½% to 5¼% p.a. The interest rate payable on High Interest deposit accounts subject to twenty one days notice of withdrawal will be decreased from 6½% to 6¼% p.a.

**Standard Chartered**

## Midland Bank Interest Rates

Effective from 15th March 1984.

### Base Rate

Reduces by ½% to 8½% per annum.

### Deposit Accounts

Interest paid on 7 day deposit accounts reduces by ¼% to 5¼% p.a.



**Midland Bank**

Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX



**Coutts & Co.**

Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is reduced from 9% to 8½% per annum with effect from the 15th March 1984 until further notice.

The Deposit Rate on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal is reduced from 5½% to 5¼% per annum.

## Hill Samuel Base Rate

With effect from the close of business on March 16, 1984, Hill Samuel's Base Rate for lending will be reduced from 9 per cent per annum to 8½ per cent per annum.

Interest payable on the Bank's Demand Deposit Account will be at the rate of 5¼ per cent per annum.

**Hill Samuel & Co. Limited**  
100 Wood Street, London EC2P 2A1  
Telephone: 01-628 8011



## Trafalgar House buys US oil group for £2.7m

Trafalgar House has purchased Odyssey Energy Inc, an oil and gas exploration and producing company centred in Houston, Texas, for \$4m (£2.72m).

Odyssey, as general partner, has generated funds from American investors who have become limited partners in exploration ventures. To date, over \$100m has been invested in drilling for oil and gas in the US. As a result, Odyssey now shares in oil and gas production in nine states.

Trafalgar House intends to expand its oil and gas business in the US and the purchase of Odyssey will complement its participation with Thomson-Monteith, based in Dallas, Texas. Odyssey has been a successful explorer and it is intended that its exploration activities should continue. Odyssey will purchase oil and gas-producing interests for Trafalgar.

Speaking in Houston, Mr John Williamson, Trafalgar House's oil and gas divisional manager, said: "Odyssey has first class reputation in the US oil and gas industry, with an excellent record of oil and gas discovery. We see Odyssey as an ideal vehicle for Trafalgar House to pursue its ambitious policy of oil and gas expansion."

### In brief

• **G. M. FIRTH (HLDGS)** has issued details of its proposed equity subscription and cash offer for the ordinary share capital of Porter, not already owned by Firth (and partners acting with Firth). Porter's pre-tax losses for the year to January 6, 1984, are estimated at no greater than £177,670 (loss £545,460).

• **WESTFIELD HOLDINGS**, the Australian quoted property company, has built up a 9.64 per cent stake in Bridge Oil, the Queensland gas producer, and the largest shareholder in Santos, the country's biggest onshore energy producer. Westfield has a working relationship with Bridge through its joint interest in the \$A120m Jackson-Moonee pipeline in Queensland.

• **BET** has announced the amalgamation of its plant and access interests into BET Plant Services, from April 1. This follows the combining of BET's scaffolding companies last year. The new group, with a turnover of £100m, will be organised into three main operational

subsidiaries: Grayston White, Edison Plant and BET Access.

• **WEEKS PETROLEUM** is seeking a general offer for all shareholders, following last month's acquisition by the Bell Group of a 48 per cent controlling interest. The Bell Group of Mr Robert Holmes a Court wants to rationalise its major interests in natural resources, and the boards of both companies have agreed that the merger is in the best interests of shareholders.

• **EMESS** has agreed an increased offer with Michael Black of 2 Emess ordinary shares and 135p cash for every Black ordinary share. The offer values each Black ordinary share at 78.5p and the issued share capital at £3.2m. Acceptances have been received for 53.5 per cent of Black.

• **CORONATION SYNDICATE** is to pay an interim dividend of two cents a share, from April 26. No dividend has been received during the current financial year from the Zimbabwe subsidiary but application has been made to the authorities there for remittance of such a dividend, amounting to £51.4m.

• **ROBERTSON RESEARCH FOR MARKET**: Robertson Research, which undertakes geological and engineering work for oil, gas, coal and metal exploration companies around the world is coming to the market with an offer for sale of 2.56 million shares, or 20.9 per cent of the equity at 160p a share, valuing the business at £19.6m. Brokers are Grievson, Grant. Set up in 1961, Robertson's clients include the big mining companies and Government agencies. For the year ending March 31 next the board is forecasting profits of not less than £1.7m. Last year, it made £997,000 on turnover of £14.8m.

• **BARKER AND DOBSON GROUP**: Year to Dec. 31 1983 compared with previous 40 weeks. Turnover £66.77m (£37.88m). Pre-tax profit £1.51m (£511,000). Dividend 0.25p net.

• **EAST LANCASHIRE PAPER GROUP**: Pre-tax profits for 1983 down from £532,000 to £415,000 and total dividend cut from 3.5p to 2.5p net a share. Turnover rose from £44.91m to £48.15m.

• **WOLSTENHOLME RINK**: Total dividend for 1983 6.75p net a share (6.25p).

Turnover £19.2m (£16.78m). Pre-tax profit £1.14m (£737,000).

• **HOUSE OF LEROE**: Turnover for 1983 up from £16.85m to £17.45m, but pre-tax profits down from £1.87m to £1.69m. Total dividend, 8p (7.5p).

• **COURTLANDS**: Warburg & Co. as an associate of International Paint, has bought 100,000 ordinary 25p shares at 137p, and 32,803 shares at 136p, on behalf of discretionary investment clients.

• **JAMES FISHER**: Results for 1983. Turnover £28.65m (£20.72m). Pre-tax profit £1.1m (£2.825m). Total dividend 3p (2.825m).

• **ELECTRO PROTECTIVE**: Results for 1983, compared with previous 15 months. Figures in US dollars. Turnover \$56.95m (£30.34m). Pre-tax profits \$7.27m (£4.69m). Final dividend 1.12 cents (1 cent last time).

• **ROBECO**: In 1983, Robeco, the Dutch investment trust, showed a total performance (capital gain, plus income) of over 40 per cent in florin terms (35.5 per cent in terms of sterling). Robeco issued new shares worth 210.7m florins (£47.5m). Net income rose for 264m fl (£62.3m) to 277m fl (£61.5m). Dividend: unchanged at 7.5p a share. Robeco believes that, after the exceptional year 1983, when nearly all stock markets showed strong advances, investors will become more selective, and fundamental developments in the economy and in enterprises will be taken notice of to a greater extent again. More favourable long-term prospects will increase the standing of shares as an investment vehicle. This greater appreciation will enable enterprises to attract risk-bearing capital by means of share issues to finance new activities.

• **GROSVENOR GROUP**: The board of Grosvenor Group, the electrical, electronics and engineering group, has agreed to purchase Weigh-Count International for £400,000. Weigh-Count specializes in the design and manufacture of weighing, counting, automatic packaging and mechanical handling equipment. The board also announces a rights issue of 1 million new ordinary shares of 25p each at 130p per share, payable in full on acceptance, on the basis of one new ordinary share of 25p for every five existing ordinary shares of 5p each. This will raise about £1.07m, after expenses. The net proceeds will partly be used to repay the term loan of £700,000 incurred to finance the acquisition of a majority interest in Backer Electric Company and the balance to assist with the funding of an expansion programme particularly in respect of two subsidiaries, Flotorm Limited and A. M. Lock & Co.

Grosvenor's board predicts a total net dividend for the current year of 5.75p a share on the bigger capital (5.25p last time).

• **HILL SAMUEL**: Base rate is 8% per cent: down from 9 per cent, from close of business today. Deposit rate is 5% per cent (5% per cent).

• **APPLEYARD GROUP**: Turnover for 1983, £128m (£110.78m). Pre-tax profit of £600,000, against a loss of £1.4m last time. No ordinary dividend (same).

• **WILLIAMS & GIBSON**: Turnover for 1983 up from £16.85m to £17.45m, but pre-tax profits down from £1.87m to £1.69m. Total dividend, 8p (7.5p).

• **SHARPE & CO**: As an associate of International Paint, has bought 100,000 ordinary 25p shares at 137p, and 32,803 shares at 136p, on behalf of discretionary investment clients.

|                   |                  |            |     |                  |              |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|-----|------------------|--------------|
| Crede             | Raleigh          | Silencers  | Cox | Sturmy-Archer    | New World    |
| Reynolds          | Parkray          | Tube Prod  |     | Glow-worm        | Chesterfield |
| Russell Hobbs     | Matrix           | Crane Pack |     | Crypton          | Abar         |
| Herbert-Churchill | King Fifth Wheel |            |     | Accles & Pollock | Desford      |
|                   |                  |            |     | Tower Housewares |              |



## Profit recovery accelerating

Sir Brian Kellett, Chairman of TI, at a press conference yesterday made a number of key points on the 1983 results and prospects for the future:

- ① Profit before tax up from £4.7m to £16.3m in 1983
- ② Dividend for the year raised from 7½p to 10p per share
- ③ Group borrowings reduced by £5m
- ④ Major moves made around the end of the year will deal with loss making parts of cycles and steel tube
- ⑤ Greatly improved results expected in 1984

| KEY FIGURES        |        |
|--------------------|--------|
|                    | 1983   |
|                    | £m     |
| Sales              | 914.3  |
| Trading Profit     | 35.5   |
| Profit before tax  | 16.3   |
| Earnings per share | 18.5p  |
| Dividends          | 10.0p  |
|                    | 1982   |
|                    | £m     |
| Sales              | 887.2  |
| Trading Profit     | 25.5   |
| Profit before tax  | 4.7    |
| Earnings per share | (5.7p) |
| Dividends          | 7.5p   |

| RESULTS BY BUSINESS AREA |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
|                          | 1983  |
|                          | £m    |
| Domestic appliances      | 22.7  |
| Cycles                   | (2.5) |
| Specialised engineering  | 18.3  |
| Steel tube               | (1.1) |
|                          | 1982  |
| Domestic appliances      | 16.9  |
| Cycles                   | (7.0) |
| Specialised engineering  | 14.3  |
| Steel tube               | 3.0   |

**TI Group**

The Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to Shareholders on April 10, 1984.

Further copies will be available from The Secretary, TI Group plc, 77 House, Five Ways, Birmingham B16 8SQ.



## United Biscuits

### 1983: Another very successful year

Profits before tax increased by 21%, from £68.4m to £83.2m.

Earnings per share increased by 24%. Recommended dividend increase of 21%. Investment reached record level at £95m.

Extracts from the Statement by Sir Hector Laing, Chairman

#### The UK Biscuit Market

During 1983 we increased our share of the market by 1.3%—to the highest level ever—with maintained margins. This is a remarkable demonstration of the substantial progress and continuing pre-eminence of our biscuit operations.

While maintaining the strength of established high volume lines, we see growth coming from trading up to higher added value lines, and we have a number of exciting new products in the pipeline.

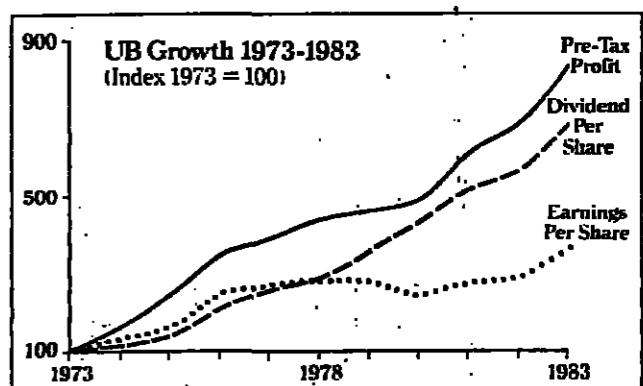
#### The USA Biscuit Market

Keebler had yet another excellent year, with the successful launch of a number of high quality new products and encouraging progress on the West Coast.

However, a competitive development in the market has been the introduction of a new soft cookie which has been very successful in its test market area. Keebler has installed new plant and will shortly be launching what we consider to be a superior product. This widening of the market augurs well for the future and the long term rewards of winning this battle by means of product quality will be substantial.

#### The Frozen Foods Market

This is one of the most dynamic sectors of the UK food industry: the retail sector has grown by nearly 30% in volume in the last three years, and the cater-



ing sector has also shown volume improvement.

U.B. Frozen Foods produces a wide range of products for the retail and catering sectors and provides distribution and supply services to caterers. During 1983 our retail product range was re-launched under the McVitie brand, resulting in a 40% sales increase and brand leadership in several categories. The recent formation of TFC-Sorge has created the largest supplier of frozen foods to the catering trade in this country.

#### The Fast Food and Restaurant Markets

Meals eaten outside the home are also increasing steadily and in 1983 the fast-food market increased by 15%.

The Wimpy image has been transformed with higher standards overall: at the end of 1983 there were 370 table-service restaurants and the number of counter-service outlets had increased to 53 with many more planned.

Our Restaurant Company is making good progress—it now operates 190 units with plans to open a further 30 this year.

#### Outlook

Despite the costs of exploiting the new opportunities in the USA, present indications are that profits and earnings per share for 1984 will again be very satisfactory.

**HEYWOOD WILLIAMS GROUP PLC**  
A new era of progress

Pre-tax profits for the year to December 1983 up 177%—well in excess of the Rights Issue forecast. Dividends for the year raised to 5p per share (1982—3p).

The Group have now substantially achieved their objectives by disposing of fringe activities and concentrating on their aluminium and glass activities. Borrowings have been virtually eliminated and profitability is now at a much more acceptable level.

The next stage is to expand existing activities with selective investment and to develop the

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1983                              | 1982   |
| Turnover £43m                     | £33m   |
| Pre-tax profit £2.35m             | £0.85m |
| Earnings per ordinary share 23.5p | 8.4p   |

Copies of the Report & Accounts are available from the Secretary, Bayhill, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD1 5EJ.

The full Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 13 April 1984. For a copy please complete the coupon and return it to The Group Company Secretary, United Biscuits (Holdings) plc, Grant House, P.O. Box 40, Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 5NN.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_



**The new Sierra E-max.  
Now you can save petrol without  
giving anything up.**

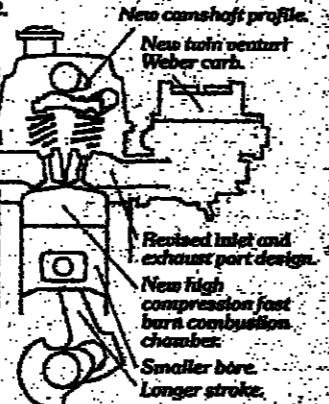
The beautifully efficient Sierra on this page has Ford's lively new 1600cc E-max engine.

Unlike some engines that are specifically designed to save petrol, this one has not been de-tuned. Instead, it's been substantially re-designed. (Students of engineering will quickly grasp the significance of the modifications detailed in the diagram.)

The result is that you'll notice a very worthwhile improvement in economy - it does over 51 mpg at 56 mph\*.

But you won't have to give up performance. Not even one mile an hour. The 5-speed transmission reaches a top speed of 105 mph. And it can accelerate from 0-60 mph in a very brisk 13.3 seconds.

Not only that, but you'll be able to enjoy all the usual Sierra equipment - stereo sound included.



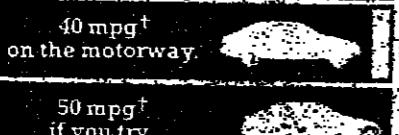
How the new E-max engine delivers better economy.

The E-max doesn't economise on anything except petrol.

It's a true Sierra. Man and machine in perfect harmony.

Govt. fuel economy figs - mpg (litres/100 km). Urban cycle 31/18.9. Constant 75 mph 120.1 (19.8) (7.1). Constant 56 mph 100.0 (13.9) (7.1). Ford computed figures. Car illustrated is a 1.6 GL, with optional E-max engine, black paint, sunroof and rear seat belts.

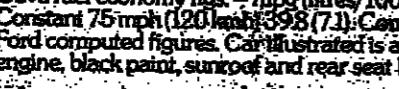
30 mpg\*  
around town.



40 mpg\*  
on the motorway.



50 mpg\*  
if you try.









# Maxwell goes to Treasury for guidance over Derby

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The link between Derby County and Robert Maxwell has not yet been severed. The publisher is today to seek advice from John Moore, the financial secretary to the Treasury, and discuss a new survival plan for the ailing second division club that would satisfy the Inland Revenue.

Mr Maxwell will be accompanied at the meeting by Stuart Webb, Derby's chief executive, as well as Tom Pendry and Jim Lester, the chairman and secretary of the all-party parliamentary football committee. Mr Webb said yesterday that it would probably be too optimistic to expect a new plan to be put forward before the weekend.

He added: "It is more likely that we will have to ask for a 21-day adjournment when the winding-up order is presented in the High Court on Monday. On his verdict rests Derby's individual fate, the continuing support for other clubs of sponsors, and particularly of banks.

If Derby are expelled, their results so far this season would be declared void and Sheffield Wednesday would suddenly find themselves more strongly placed than at present. Chelsea, currently ahead of them on goal difference, Carlisle United, Grimsby Town and Chester, ironically, would be the unfortunate clubs who would have nothing to show for bearing Derby at home and away.

The table below gives, from left to right, clubs, current points, amended points, current position, amended position.

|               |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| Chelsea       | 62 | 56 | 1  | 2  |
| Newcastle     | 62 | 61 | 1  | 3  |
| Manchester C  | 56 | 56 | 3  | 4  |
| Carlisle      | 56 | 54 | 4  | 4  |
| Grimsby       | 58 | 50 | 5  | 5  |
| Blackburn     | 51 | 47 | 6  | 6  |
| Charlton      | 46 | 40 | 8  | 9  |
| Leeds         | 43 | 42 | 9  | 8  |
| Brighton      | 41 | 38 | 10 | 11 |
| Huddersfield  | 40 | 36 | 11 | 12 |
| Shrewsbury    | 38 | 36 | 12 | 13 |
| Portsmouth    | 38 | 35 | 13 | 14 |
| Cardiff       | 38 | 35 | 14 | 15 |
| Middlesbrough | 36 | 36 | 15 | 13 |
| Oldham        | 36 | 33 | 16 | 18 |
| Sheffield     | 36 | 33 | 17 | 17 |
| Fulham        | 35 | 34 | 18 | 18 |
| West Ham P    | 35 | 32 | 19 | 20 |
| Swansea       | 21 | 18 | 21 | 20 |
| Cambridge     | 24 | 14 | 22 | 21 |

\*Outstanding fixture against Derby.

## Feared pair resume for Liverpool

By Clive White

Woe be to Southampton, Manchester United, Everton or anyone else interested in disputing honours with Liverpool this season. Ian Rush, the league's leading goalscorer, was pronounced fit yesterday as Derby would wish the League is being accused of all kinds of things. We are being subjected to some not so subtle pressure by Derby even though our position has been entirely consistent."



Blissett: few goals

## Blissett may leave Milan

By Peter Ball

Luther Blissett's unhappy sojourn in Italy appears to be nearing its end. Reports from Milan yesterday said that AC Milan had placed the English international forward on the transfer list.

The move was not entirely unexpected. Blissett's direct style has not been an immediate success against the tighter defences prevalent in Italy. So far, he has scored three times in 22 games for Milan.

Last night, however, Blissett had not been informed by the club that a meeting of the ways was imminent. He is only what appears to be a minor figure in the Milan hierarchy. "If they have decided that," he said, "all I can do is keep on playing as long as they keep picking me. But no one has said anything to me about it."

Blissett said he would not be interested in moving to another Italian club, preferring to return to England.

Watford, who have a buy-back clause in Blissett's contract, would undoubtedly be his first choice. "Of course I would like to go back there," he said. "I have very happy memories of Watford and I still have a great fondness for the club. But Milan would obviously want to recoup some of the transfer fee they paid for me, and whether Watford could afford it is another matter."

Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, was not interested in re-signing Blissett earlier in the season, but although Watford still have at least part of the £1m they received from Milan available, the success of the scoring partnership of Johnson and Reilly makes the acquisition of a forward a less pressing need.

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## BASKETBALL

### Warrington make an impact on court

By Nicholas Hartling

If FSO Cars Warrington, in the person of their garrulous promoter, Colin Bentley, have invariably made quite a noise off court, impact has not always been matched by events on it. Until the current campaign, that is.

The 18-stone Bentley, who felt safe at the beginning of the season in threatening to ride up Wembley Way on a donkey should his club reach their first National Championships play-off, sponsored by Wimpey Homes, this weekend, has got himself into some ancient law that forbids anyone over 10 stone riding a donkey.

With Wembley the venue tonight, when Warrington meet Blue Nun Crystal Palace in the second semi-final, the sound of Bentley, who normally provides running commentaries at his club's home games, will for once be eclipsed, he hopes, by the performance of his players.

Not the least of those players is Will Brown, an American given to sounding off almost as volubly as Bentley himself. Brown is one of the most consistent and successful forwards in the National League, even if he was mysteriously overlooked when the places came to choose their all-star team. Brown was piqued, not so much at being excluded, as for the fact that his defensive qualities were obviously ignored. Like his compatriots here, he is annoyed at the way the top scorers are feted in this country, at the expense of those displaying other necessary attributes.

"It's time to stop and think," he says. "Did I want to go out and score a bundle of goals? I wanted to get recognized, or play a role? Obviously, I preferred the team concept, knowing that I wouldn't be as celebrated."

Perhaps it is the fault of the player himself for the abiding vision of Brown is not of defensive activity but of a characteristic drive forward, releasing a shot in the split second before his take-off touches the floor. Invariably those shots go in, which is why Brown finds himself the club's leading scorer and the potential destroyer of a Palace team aiming to maintain their record of never having missed a champion-

ship. He comes from Passaic, in New Jersey, where, like so many other high school boys, he learned the game bouncing a ball around in the streets.

Brown has obviously made his point, and he will undoubtedly score a few more tonight. So, too, should one other player with origins in New Jersey, in the first semi-final. Dan Callandri, the brilliant Bracknell Pirates guard manages to shake off a hip injury and finds his most devastating form. Solent, the National League and Cup winners, will have no easy task reaching their first Wembley final.

## CRICKET

### Australians must hold the catches

Port of Spain — Greg Ritchie and Tom Hogan are expected to be fit to play in an unchanged Australian side for the second Test match against West Indies starting at Queen's Park Oval here today. Ritchie, batsman, and Hogan, a left-arm spinner, both missed the one-day international at the same ground on Wednesday because of illness.

Australia won that match by four wickets to square the one-day series at 1-1, but they will need to sharpen their catching for the Test match. Richards and Grenidge, West Indies' top scorers, were each dropped twice and Lloyd once, reducing Australia's advantage of winning the toss and bowing first in helpful conditions.

If Australia decide to change their team, Maguire could replace Alderman. Moore has taken 10 wickets in his first five-class matches he has played on the tour. Alderman, although among the winning wickets, has been more expensive and has a poorer striking rate. Marshall, who missed the first Test with a knee injury, has been recalled by the West Indies at the expense of Davis. Marshall was well below his best in Wednesday's one-day international, conceding 11 runs in nine overs and with Daniel's nine overs costing 56, the superb efforts of Garner were offset.

WEST INDIES: 190 for 5 (J. V. Richards 67, C. Greenidge 63). Total: 250.

AUSTRALIA: K. C. Wessels, R. Richards 14, D. W. Hobbs, B. Garner 14, S. S. Smith, R. Richardson, 23, D. M. Jones, run out, 25, A. R. Border, not out, 26, T. V. Hogan, 25, G. S. Callandri, Extras (9-7, 1-5, 0-5, 2-5).

Total (6 wickets off 36 overs) 194. J. N. Maguire, T. M. Alderman and R. M. Hobbs did not bat.

FOOT OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-98, 3-143, 4-152, 5-162, 6-158.

BOWLING: Garner 9.4-2-24-1, Daniel 8.0-55, 1, Small 8.0-40-1, Marshall 8.0-2.

WEST INDIES: (cont.) C. L. Lloyd (captain), G. C. Grenidge, D. L. Haynes, R. Richardson, T. V. Hogan, D. M. Alderman, J. Garner, W. M. Davis, A. Smith.

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

**FIRST DIVISION**

Southampton v Liverpool (7.15)

**SECOND DIVISION**

Chelsea v Blackburn

**FOURTH DIVISION**

Stockport v Chesterfield

OTHER MATCH: Epping Town v Tottenham Hotspur XI

## RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Bristol v Plymouth Albion (7.15), Ebbw Vale v Brecon (7.15); Llanelli v RAF (7.15); Wrexham v US

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: English University v Welsh Universities (Imperial College, Hertford, 3.0).

COLTS' INTERNATIONAL: England v Italy (Gateshead, 3.0).

## RUGBY LEAGUE

ENGLISH DIVISIONS: St Helens v Hull, 10.00; Second Division: Workington v Barrow (at Workington, 1.00).

## BASKETBALL

WARRINGTON: English basketball play-offs: Semi-Finals: Solent Stars v Bracknell Pirates (5.30); Crystal Palace v Warrington (6.30).

## OTHER SPORT

BILLIARDS: English amateur championships (Winton Snooker Centre, 11.00); Open doubles championships (Gateshead's Club, 3.30).

# Burrough Hill Lad's Cup glory

By Michael Seely

Jenny Pitman added the Gold Cup to her Grand National laurels when Phil Tuck rode Burrough Hill Lad to a three-lengths' victory over Brown Chamberlin at Cheltenham yesterday. The first woman ever to complete this historic double, stood in triumph in the unsaddling enclosure afterwards.

"I've always been confident that Burrough Hill Lad would win. And I've been even more determined for him to do so since all that trip has been talked about the horse breaking blood vessels."

It was a famous victory and Mrs Pitman thoroughly deserved her hour of glory. Both Tuck and John Francome excelled themselves in their riding of the winner and the runner-up. Brown Chamberlin jumped like a buck in the lead, saving yards by taking the shortest route. It was only when Brown Chamberlin started to hang to the right going to the second last that Tuck was able to slip Burrough Hill Lad through on the rail.

"Phil did a marvellous job," said Mrs Pitman. "I told him to keep out of the hassle early on, to go about fourth on the final circuit and then to make his challenge on the inside. "Similarly, Fred Winter was full of praise for Francome, whose coolness and professionalism, have never been more in evidence than in these recent days of adversity. "I was thrilled with Brown Chamberlin," said the seven-times champion trainer. "He jumped super and Johnny will never ride a better race."

Drumlanigan stayed on to take a third place eight lengths behind Brown Chamberlin. "We've got no excuses," said Eddie O'Grady. "Drumlanigan would obviously have finished closer if the going had been softer," Scott Lane and Cammy Dunn both ran with enormous credit to finish fourth and fifth, respectively.

Last year's winner, Bregawn, was on his most mulish behaviour. He whirled round an unseated Graham Bradley during the parade. He ran in snatches throughout the race and only consented to run and take sixth place in the closing stages.

The disappointment of the race was, of course, the poor display by Wayward Lad who lost a good position with a

blunder at the sixth fence from home. The 6-4 favourite then hit the next jump and was pulled up before the second last.

"Wayward Lad was never really going and made a noise at the top of the hill," said Robert Barnshaw, his jockey. Michael Dickinson took his setbacks philosophically. "We beat Brown Chamberlin by five lengths at Kempton and ran well against him at Newbury. He's never gorged before and I can only say that it was too bad to be true. Wayward Lad was the subject of a routine dope test after the race."

No words of praise can be too high for Mrs Pitman's training of Burrough Hill Lad. She has been operating at Lambourn for nine years, but has advanced rapidly, towards the top of her profession in the past two seasons. Both Burrough Hill Lad and Corbiere are thorough stayers. But Burrough Hill Lad and Corbiere are thorough stayers. But Burrough Hill Lad has done enough for the season and will now have a well-earned rest," the trainer concluded.

The 27-year-old Tuck is a freelance and lost the mount on Burrough Hill Lad earlier this

season by preferring to go to Ayr to ride for Harry Bell on Welsh National Day. Francome, of course, rode the gelding to victory at Cheltenham, twice at Sandown and Wincanton. But the champion jockey was committed to Brown Chamberlin for yesterday's race. "Words can't describe how I feel," said Tuck. "This has been the happiest day of my life."

About 40 minutes before the Gold Cup, Winter had saddled his second winner of the meeting when Oliver Sherwood rode his father Nat's Venture

to Cognac to a gallant victory over Spartan Missile in the Christies Foxhounds Challenge Cup.

This was Winter's assistant's last ride at Cheltenham before setting up to train on his own account at Lambourn next season.

Nicky Henderson was thrilling with the running of Spartan Missile. "He's so game, but basically Spartan Missile has lost some of his dash and could only run on at one pace. It's too early to make up our minds about a second attempt at the National."

John O'Neill won the Ritz Club Charity Trophy award for being the most successful jockey of the meeting for the second time. By finishing second on Path of Peace to Hill's Guard in the County Hurdle, the former champion amassed more points than Dermot Brown, who also landed a double on Brown's Gazette and The Mighty Mac.

Another magnificent festival of steeplechasing was watched by a total crowd of 86,740, an increase of over 3,000 on last year's figures.

Burrough Hill Lad has now

won five races this season worth over £90,000. He has progressed from capturing the Welsh National under 10st 9lb at Chepstow in December to establishing himself as an above average Gold Cup winner yesterday. The eight-year-old was bred at Burrough Hill in Leicestershire — Stan Riley.

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## Redundancy claim reduced by unemployment benefits

**Westwood v Secretary of State for Employment**  
Before Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Brightman  
[Speeches delivered March 15]

An employee dismissed without the minimum statutory notice to which he was entitled under section 59 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 could recover damages for breach of contract under section 51 but was under a duty to mitigate those damages, and unemployment benefits were in principle deductible in mitigation of damages.

The House of Lords so held, allowing an appeal by the Secretary of State for Employment from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Evershed, Lord Justice O'Connor and Lord Justice Pugh) (*7th & 8th CLR 730*) who on June 28, 1983, dismissed an appeal by the secretary of state from a decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson, Mr R. Cooper and Mr E. A. Webb) (*The Times*, May 25, 1982; [1982] ICR 534) who allowed an appeal by the employee, Walter Westwood, from a decision of an industrial tribunal sitting in Leeds on October 21, 1982.

Mr P. D. J. Scott, QC, and Mr Paul Goldsmith for the secretary of state; Mr Stephen Sedley, QC, and Mr Robert Allen for the employee.

**LORD BRIDGE** said that on May 9, 1980 the employers became insolvent and in consequence the employee was dismissed without notice. Having been continuously employed for 12 weeks, the employee was entitled by virtue of section 49(1)(c) of the 1978 Act to no less than 12 weeks' notice.

The wrongful dismissal being attributable to the employers' insolvency, the employers' liability to the employee in respect thereof was imposed upon the secretary of state by section 122(1) and (3)(b) of the 1978 Act, reproduced provisions first enacted by the Contracts of Employment Act 1963 with detailed amendments which were effected successively by the Contracts of Employment Act 1972 and the Employment Protection Act 1975.

The principal provision of section 49 of the 1978 Act as to requirement of notice was to be met out of the Redundancy Fund, with a right over against the insolvent employers under section 121(1). The liability of the secretary of state could not exceed the amount of the insolvent employers.

The employee remained unemployed for more than 15 months. He received unemployment benefit and earnings related supplement for the maximum periods of entitlement of approximately 12 months and six months respectively. After the expiry of his entitlement to unemployment benefit he received supplementary benefit.

On February 3, 1981, the secretary of state paid the employee £1,052.76. That represented the £1,052.76 he would have earned during the 12 weeks' notice less the aggregate of unemployment benefit and earnings related supplement which he in fact received in the same period.

The employee complained to an industrial tribunal that he was entitled to recover the balance on the ground that the benefit received had been wrongly deducted. The tribunal rejected that complaint.

The employee then appealed the Employment Appeal Tribunal, who gave judgment to the effect that the benefits received were, in principle, deductible in mitigation of damages for loss of earnings flowing from wrongful dismissal following *Secretary of State for Employment v. 17/10/81* [1978] 1 WLR 368 and *Parsons BNM Laboratories* [1984] 1 QB 951.

However, in consequence of the premature termination of his employment, his ultimate position was that in the period of 15 months following the 12 weeks' notice period, had been obliged to claim prematurely the benefits to which he had entitled entitlement.

The employee's entitlement beyond the period of his employment, his ultimate position was that in the period of 15 months following the 12 weeks' notice period, he could have earned, in accordance with his rights conferred by section 50 and Schedule 3 if he had been given notice, but subject to the relevant period of entitlement.

In effect that loss was the

## Bookmakers' chairman loses post

**Cowburn v Bruce**  
The defendant, Mr Alfred Bruce, who was chairman of the Bookmakers' Committee until immediately before December 1, 1982, when the Horserace Betting Levy (Bookmakers' Committee) Regulations (SI 1982 No 1464) replaced earlier Regulations (SI 1976 No 122), agreed to be chairman as from that date.

The House of Lords on March 13 allowed an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Leonard Cowburn, a committee member, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice O'Connor dissenting), who had reversed Mr Justice Goulding.

**LORD BRANDON OF OAKBROOK**, with whom Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman agreed, said that the answer to the

difference between the aggregate of unemployment benefit and earnings related supplement paid during the first 12 weeks of unemployment and the supplementary benefit paid during the first 12 weeks after the unemployment benefit period expired. That figure was agreed at £21,67 which the Employment Appeal Tribunal ordered the secretary of state to pay the employee.

The secretary of state appealed to the Court of Appeal on the basis that an employee entitled under the Act to a minimum statutory notice period, whether or not he was given that notice, had a statutory right to be paid the full amount due during the period of notice calculated in accordance with the provisions of section 50 and Schedule 3, and that this statutory right was not subject to any deduction by reference to a common-law duty on the part of the employee to mitigate his damage.

The two categories of receipt by the victim of a tort or breach of contract which provided the classic examples of sums which did not fall to be deducted from the damages claimed were the fruits of private insurance or of private benevolence.

The reasons for those exclusions were obvious. There was no analogy between the generosity of private subscribers to the fund for the victims of some disaster, who also had claims against a tortfeasor, and the state providing a benefit for the need of sums which, in one way or another had been subscribed compulsorily by various classes of citizens.

The concept of public benevolence provided by the state was difficult to comprehend. But there was a more respectable argument for the view that unemployment benefit was the fruit of insurance to which employers and employees had contributed in different proportions. That was superficially plausible, because unemployment benefit was paid out of the National Insurance Fund.

But it was to be observed that less than 10 per cent of that fund was expended on unemployment benefit (the lion's share went to provide retirement pensions) and, more significantly, that the payments which sustained the fund were made by way of compulsory levies on citizens in different circumstances, not on behalf of taxpayers, so that they might properly be regarded as much more closely analogous to a tax than to a contractual premium payable under an insurance policy.

Those considerations led to the conclusion that *Parsons*' case was rightly decided.

A plaintiff who had suffered damage need only account by way of mitigation for the net gain accruing to him of a kind property to be taken into account, and which would not have been received but for the tort or breach of contract giving rise to his damage. Thus, a wrongfully dismissed employee would be able to set off against any earnings in a new job to be deducted from his damages, the reasonable expenses of travelling and advertising incurred in obtaining that new job.

Therefore in the present case, the right way in which the question should be formulated was: Against the lost earnings caused by the employee's dismissal without notice, what was, in the events which happened, the net gain to the employee in benefits received?

The answer to that question was not, as the plaintiff's case received during the 12 weeks' notice period, but the lesser sum received as supplementary benefit after the premature expiry of the unemployment benefit and earnings related supplements periods occasioned by the wrongful dismissal.

That was the answer given by the Employment Appeal Tribunal whose order required the secretary of state to make up the difference between the benefits deducted in calculating his original payment and the supplementary benefit received in the first 12 weeks after the unemployment benefit period expired. Accordingly the appeal was allowed to the extent necessary to restore that order.

Lord Diplock, Lord Keith, Lord Brandon and Lord Brightman agreed.

**Solicitors:** Treasury Solicitor, Leonard Ross & Craig for Pearman Gratz & Co, Leeds.

**Employment Appeal Tribunal**

**Employment Appeal Tribunal</b**







